FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JANUARY 1984

Lebanon

Political Issues, Contacts — The Lebanese Government was "surprised" by opposition statements rejecting its decision to reinstate the Druze officers and soldiers in Hammana barracks because it had been told that "all difficulties would be surmounted" if it agreed to solve the problem, President Amin al-Jumayyil told newspaper editors in remarks reported by Beirut radio on 27 January. Al-Jumayyil also stressed Lebanon's desire for "improved and special" relations with Syria. According to Damascus radio, he subsequently discussed bilateral relations in a telephone call to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

The Druze officers in Hammana "implicitly rejected" the Army Command's call to rejoin their units in order to receive promotion and back pay and described the government's offer as "instigation to take part in Lebanon's domestic conflicts," AFP reported. A statement by the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Truth radio, stressed that they cannot be considered dissidents and must remain at their present posts.

In other developments, PSP leader Walid Junblatt paid a "surprise" visit to Libya for talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Fatah opposition leaders while other PSP officials held a lengthy meeting with Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri in Damascus, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam discussed the situation in Lebanon with Donald Rumsfeld, Damascus radio reported on 30 January.

Security Situation — U.S. Marines clashed with gunmen in the vicinity of Beirut airport, causing the temporary suspension of air traffic, Beirut radio announced on 30 January. The renewed fighting came shortly after Beirut radio had spoken of a "relative improvement" in the security situation despite continued exchanges of fire in the mountain areas. Nevertheless, 15 people were wounded in two bomb explosions in West Beirut on 28 January, the radio noted. In the south, attacks against the IDF continued and an Israeli soldier was wounded in one incident south of the Az-Zahrani River, according to Jerusalem and IDF radios.

Jordan

King Husayn said that there are "no plans" to form a Jordanian rapid deployment force with increased military aid from the United States. The denial came in response to questions from local and foreign news correspondents during two press conferences held on 28 January, reported by Amman radio and later broadcast by Amman television. "We expect our kinfolk and brothers to stand on our side in difficult circumstances, and we expect to always be ready to assist them," the king added. For this reason, there is "no intention" to form any new force.

Asked about his forthcoming trip to the United States, Husayn replied that it was purely for medical reasons, although he admitted that the "opportunity may arise when I might meet with some of our friends there." The postponed visit by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is scheduled to take place after the king's return. Regarding the Jordanian-PLO dialogue, Husayn expressed his concern for its resumption "as soon as possible." Jordanians and Palestinians "belong to the same family" and face a common threat. "We have never and will never give up our kinfolk and brothers," the king affirmed.

Asked to evaluate relations with Syria, King Husayn said that they have been marred by currently "irreconcilable" differences over several issues including Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war, and Syria's recent attempt to destroy the PLO. Asked if it was Syria that was responsible for the recent attacks on Jordanian diplomats, the king said the Syrians were to blame.

Husa[illegible] also said that he had extended an invitation to Egypt's President Husni Mubarak to visit Jordan when they met at the nonaligned conference in New Delhi. The invitation "is open when his circumstances permit," the king added, and "we warmly welcome him and any other Arab brother who visits our country."

In another development, King Husayn received Donald Rumsfeld on 28 January, Amman television reported. During their meeting, Rumsfeld presented the results of his visits to various states in the region and the U.S. evaluation of efforts to settle the Lebanese crisis.

Israel

A planned attack against the Temple Mount on 27 January was thwarted by police, Jerusalem radio's English service reported. Two young men detained in connection with the incident were attending a Torah study group meeting led by the head of the Kach movement, the radio added. Police have imposed a "complete blackout" on news regarding the investigation.

In a separate incident, a Nabulus youth was killed by a border guard in the course of a "violent scuffle" with rock-throwing youths, Jerusalem radio stated.

Meanwhile, Minister Without Portfolio Mordekhay Ben-Porat submitted his resignation to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on 29 January, IDF Radio announced. In his letter of resignation, cited by IDF Radio, Ben-Porat said his decision was not related to any contacts with the Labor Party but was the result of frustration with internal conflicts among Cabinet members which hinder the adoption of decisions. The minister said he will continue to be a coalition member.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Egypt and ICO — Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived in Cairo at the head of an ICO delegation, MENA reported on 30 January. Meanwhile, Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi received a Saudi envoy who conveyed a message from King Fahd assuring the Libyan that Egypt's return to the ICO "will never happen" unless it agrees to "remove the reasons" for the suspension of its membership, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported.

Mubarak To Visit Jordan, Iraq — President Mubarak has received and accepted invitations to visit Jordan and Iraq, Cairo radio reported citing an "official source" in the Foreign Ministry.

Iraqi, Syrian Contacts — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz held talks with King Husayn in Amman and Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Taqi subsequently paid a "surprise" visit to Kuwait, according to Amman radio and KUNA. Meanwhile, Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam visited Algeria over the weekend and delivered a message to President Chadli Bendjedid from President al-Asad, Damascus Radio noted.

Syria

President al-Asad, in a 28 January national address marking the resumption of his presidential duties, expressed profound thanks to the Syrian people for their support and love during his period of recuperation. The problem was one of "exhaustion" and was no cause for concern, the Syrian leader explained in remarks broadcast by Damascus television.

'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, left Tehran on 27 January after a 3-day visit, Damascus radio reported. During his stay, the Syrian official discussed Egypt's return to the Arab political fold, U.S. "conspiracies" in the region, and ways to expand bilateral relations, IRNA reported.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat Activities — PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat returned to Tunis on 29 January after meeting with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in Bucharest, SPA reported. During their talks 'Arafat and Ceausescu stressed the need for convening an international conference on the Palestine problem and emphasized the importance of strengthening Palestinian national unity within the PLO under 'Arafat's leadership, according to Bucharest radio. Earlier, 'Arafat paid a brief visit to Morocco, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio noted.

Dissidents — Nimr Salih and other leaders of the "new revolutionary movement" within Fatah held talks with Libyan leaders in Tripoli over the weekend, according to reports by JANA.

Pakistan-Afghanistan

Two Afghan Air Force MIG's bombed and rocketed a Pakistani border village on 27 January, killing 40 civilians and wounding about 60 others, Karachi radio reported. The Pakistani Foreign Ministry summoned the Afghan charge d'affaires to lodge a strong protest, the radio said, and Pakistan will also raise the issue with the UN secretary general. However, the Afghan charge d'affaires denied the Pakistani accusation, which he said was "baseless" and made for propaganda purposes, according to Delhi radio.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq has returned 190 Iranian POW's, including 149 captured civilians and 41 soldiers suffering from various illnesses, Tehran radio reported on 30 January. IRNA ascribed their release to Iranian pressure through the International Red Cross, while INA said the Iraqi Foreign Ministry viewed the release "in exchange for nothing" as an example of Iraq's respect for international commitments and its "humanitarian" approach.

Chad

French Defense Minister Charles Hernu ordered French troops to move the "red line" separating warring factions in Chad 100 km further north in response to the downing of a French plane last week, AFP reported. A spokesman for Goukouni Oueddei's rebels in Tripoli, cited by AFP, said that the move constitutes a "declaration of war against the struggling Chadian people." In Paris another spokesman for the "legitimate unified Chadian government" said an appeal has been issued to Libya to stand beside the "national liberation army" in accordance with joint defense agreements, JANA reported. According to remarks by Libyan Foreign Secretary 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, cited by Paris radio, Tripoli hopes the situation will not "force" [illegible] to intervene to defend its security and friends.

FBIS

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'Arafat Pays Brief Visit to Rabat 27 Jan

GF271738 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Rabat today on a brief visit to Morocco. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar will hold talks with a number of Moroccan officials on current international situations and relations between the PLO and Morocco, in addition to a number of other issues that are of mutual interest.

Brother Abu 'Ammar is expected to meet with a number of the members of the delegation which stemmed from the fourth Islamic summit and which will leave for Egypt tomorrow in order to inform it of the conference's decision to cancel the suspension of Egypt's membership in the Islamic Conference Organization.

PLO Official Meets CSSR, SFRY Envoys in Tunis

JN281909 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Abu Ja'far, director of the PLO's Political Department, met in Tunis today with the CSSR and SFRY ambassadors to Tunisia. WAFA said that the recent developments in the Arab region, the developments of the Palestine question, the PLO's relations with the CSSR and SFRY, and the results of the fourth Islamic summit conference were discussed during the meetings.

PFLP Political Bureau Begins Damascus Meeting

JN271733 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The PFLP Political Bureau began its meetings in Damascus today in the absence of PFLP Secretary General George Habash who is currently in Prague. The Political Bureau meetings will continue for 3 days and will deal with the means of preserving PLO unity on the basis of a national political program that reflects the categorical rejection of President Reagan's proposals and the Camp David line.

The PFLP Political Bureau will draw up a plan to enhance struggle inside the occupied Arab territories and to further coordinate with the Lebanese nationalist forces that are resisting the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon. It will also work to escalate the struggle within the PLO in order to confront Yasir 'Arafat's political line.

On another level, PFLP Political Bureau member Bassam Abu 'Sharif has strongly condemned Jordan's recent measures, represented by reconvening the Jordanian Parliament. He said that this measure is directed against the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Syria Reportedly Seizes PLO Official's Passport

JN290733 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Jan 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* has learned that Syrian authorities have seized the passport of Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashahsibi, PLO Executive Committee member, and prevented him from leaving for Tunis to meet with Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. A responsible Palestinian source in Amman asserted yesterday that Syrian authorities threatened An-Nashashibi that if he must leave Syria, he will never be allowed to reneter if he insists on participating in the PLO Executive Committee's meetings chaired by 'Arafat.

Baghdad PLO Radio Interviews PLF Leader

JN291343 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1633 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Interview with Abu al-'Abbas, deputy secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front who is "currently on an official, working visit to Baghdad," by an unidentified radio correspondent; date not specified — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified correspondent] We welcome Comrade Abu al-'Abbas. We hope that you will explain to us the dimensions and significance of the recent abortive putschist movement within the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF].

[Abu al-'Abbas] I thank my brothers at the Voice of Palestine radio for their efforts to present a true picture of the situation to our people and masses both inside and outside the occupied territories. I would like to stress that these efforts have been instrumental in disseminating the true picture with sincere and accurate reporting. This has strengthened our people's cohesion around the PLO and its independent decisionmaking.

On this occasion, I must refer to what is taking place now and what took place in the past. These events are connected. We cannot deal separately with the putschist program the Fatah dissident movement outlined with Syrian and Libyan support. This is connected with an old Syrian-Libyan program. The main aim was to control and dominate PLO decisionmaking and to place the PLO and the Palestinian national forces within the Syrian sphere of influence in order to rob the Palestinians of their independence and ability to represent our masses and national cause. The Syrian-Libyan plot became clear following the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Certain gangs within the Palestinian revolution were approached and asked to disrupt Palestinian harmony and usurp power within the PLO through a fascist, putschist move. This cannot be separated from the Palestinian and Arab events in which Syria's role has been very clear to all political observers since 1970. This was very clear in Syria's position toward the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon in 1973 and 1976.

The putschist conspiracy, which was planned and sometimes implemented by the Syrian authorities, was not a chance development. It was the result of a well planned program with evil aims, which should be exposed. Hence, we discussed these developments. We were convinced that what was taking place was an act of aggression against our national cause. We, as the PLF, declared our position by siding with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our masses. We considered that the PLO represents the independent Palestinian decisionmaking, regardless of the differences that appeared from time to time within the PLO framework.

We were not satisfied with simply declaring our pro-PLO stand. We asked our fighters to move northward in Lebanon in order to defend the Palestinian revolution against a possible attack there. Our fighters and comrades participated in defending the revolution side by side with the Palestinian revolution fighters in northern Lebanon. The war in northern Lebanon has not yielded any results for the Syrian regime. This war proved that the so-called differences were not genuine inter-Palestinian differences, but Palestinian-Syrian differences on decisive, fundamental issues. At least the Palestinian revolution left northern Lebanon in possession of its own will. It did not concede its will to Syria.

This failure to usurp the independent Palestinian decisionmaking did not deter Syria. It continued its attempts to exacerbate inter-Palestinian splits. It continued to support the Fatah putschists and began to escalate its actions against other Palestinian organizations, regardless of their positions. The Syrians think that everybody should obey Syrian decisions. Syria does not accept any independent stand, even if this stand is similar to the Syrian stand on this or that organization.

Syria wanted to organize the Palestinian house by force in order to make it conform to Syria's position. According to the mentality of the Syrian planners, this operation should have a Palestinian cover so that the Syrian involvement is hidden. The problem will then be presented to observers as internal and perpetual Palestinian differences. They will be told that the Palestinians cannot have discipline within their own organization, and therefore that the Palestinian cannot represent himself on the Arab and international levels, and therefore certain Arab sides would have the right to represent the Palestinians. Thus, the Syrian stand can be implemented by certain Palestinians, who can be ready tools to implement the Syrian plot and to carry out crimes against their own people and comrades as well as against the Palestinian bases and cadres that are still in Syria. Hence, we consider the actions of [PLF dissident leader 'Abd al-Fattah] Ghanim and his brother to be an extension of the current putschist mentality in Syria and a continuation of the abortive putschist program within Fatah. It is also an attempt to hide Syria's shame as a result of the failure of its plot.

We say that there is no need for confrontation. The basic aggression does not come from 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim or Abu Salih [Nimr Salih]. The aggression is based on the Syrian-Libyan program of aggression. In order to face this aggression, we should face these two forces. We must not hesitate or take neutral stands. We must take action and support our independent Palestinian will. This is how we can decide these issues clearly, patiently, and rationally. This will strengthen Palestinian fighters and revolutionaries, and avoid further splits.

Hence, we say that the democratic way is the only way to end the differences. The democratic way is the only way to reject Ghanim and his ilk. It is wrong to retaliate against Ghanim's putschist move with a similar move. We cannot answer his claims about representation by saying that this or that person is representative. The only arbitor in this case is the democratic process.

[Correspondent] Before asking our last question, we would like to thank you for the accurate picture you have given us, a picture that has disclosed more dimensions of the Syrian-Libyan conspiracy against the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. Brother Abu al-'Abbas, our last question is: Why is the Syrian regime trying to split the PLF at this stage, after it failed to achieve this in Fatah? In other words, why this insistence on dividing and striking at the unity of the Palestinian organizations which are known to be loyal to Palestine, which adhere to independent decisionmaking, and which are concerned about the legitimate Palestinian frameworks?

[Abu al-'Abbas] Within this framework, I must note a basic problem. The Syrian regime believes the PLF is an easy target to control, especially since there are some differences in the front within the one political framework. At the same time, the Syrian regime believes that this may deter other organizations that are still standing in the middle. We are certain that the Syrian regime wants to control the Palestinian situation with Syrian decisions. Proceeding from this concept, the Syrian regime is trying to exploit the current situation in the Palestinian arena and in the PLF in order to complete its plans. The direct reason behind the Syrian escalation must be clearly shown — the Syrian authorities found out that there is an opportunity for reconciliation in the PLF, and that the comrades began serious and responsible dialogue in order to achieve unity in the front and to escalate the means of confrontation. Consequently, the Syrian regime used some of its tools and employed Ghanim and his brother to undermine the dialogue taking place in our arena — the PLF. Those tools would tell our comrades who are still in Syria that they have to select one of two options — if they submit to these tools and end their relations with their comrades who declared a frank and clear national stand, they will not have any opportunity to continue their struggle for independence.

We have great confidence in our fighters and comrades, both those who defended the revolution in northern Lebanon and declared their stand, and those who are still in Damascus. Those comrades rejected containment in 1976. They said no to the Syrian plan 7 years ago, and they said no to hegemony and its tools. I do not believe that these cadres and comrades will change their minds after 7 years, and agree to be led like goats by Jibril's group and the Syrian authorities.

If the Syrian plan succeeds within Syria, I believe that other actions will take place within Palestinian frameworks. Every Palestinian there — and to be accurate, every Palestinian organization — must agree on the Syrian plan in order to act openly. Struggle is not based on privileges, offices or sponsorship; struggle will be more [word indistinct] if we follow struggle means [word indisticnt] from our surroundings.

The first step in confronting the conspiracy is to move outside the circle of conspiracy and adopt alternate means of struggle. Otherwise, all will be faced with a carrot once and with a stick at other times — just as our comrades in Syria are practicing.

We believe that the presence of Palestinian leaders enjoying some privilages in the Syrian territory can only be achieved by paying a price. This price is their inability to declare the correct stand, the correct trend of aggression.

[Correspondent] At the end of this interview, we would like to thank Brother Abu al-'Abbas. We hope that we will have more interviews with him in the future.

Baghdad PLO Radio on Kohl Visit to Israel

JN271814 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1637 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, the statement which FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl made at the end of the first round of talks with the Zionist officials in Tel Aviv and in which he firmly declared that FRG policy is determined in Bonn not in Tel aviv, clearly shows, and in fact underscores, two very important matters: the first is the nature of the talks themselves and the Zionists' objectives from these talks, and, consequently, the nature of the Zionist demands raised in these talks, or rather the dictates the Zionist officials tried to force on Chancellor Kohl. These dictates, which Chancellor Kohl himself revealed earlier in a statement in Bonn on the FRG attitude toward the various issues of the Arab region, were concerned with FRG foreign policy toward the Arab states and the question of the sale of German weapons to certain Arab states.

The second matter is the nature of the pressures that prompted Chancellor Kohl to pay this visit to the Zionist entity. The details of this second matter expose the first matter. This is because the Zionist officials know the strong pressure brought to bear on Kohl by many of the Zionist figures in his government and by the U.S. Administration to pay this visit.

Since the Zionist officials had been aware of the magnitudeof these pressures, they thought that they could impose their conditions on the FRG, which is an independent state, to make it formulate its Middle East policy in the interest of their expansionist aggressive objectives; in other words, to make it completely serve Israel's expansionist policy. The Zionist officials wanted the visit to succeed in their own way and under their own terms so as to achieve Zionist and U.S. objectives, which include the splitting of the European stand which, to a certain extent, is different from the U.S. Administration's stand on the issues of the Arab region, especially the Palestine question. We say that splitting the European stand is one of the major objectives of the U.S. Administration and the Zionist enemy. It was for the sake of this objective that the U.S. Administration and the Zionist figures in the Kohl government brought pressure to bear on the chancellor to pay this visit to Tel Aviv. This is because there are speculations that a positive development will take place in the Western European stand in the next 6 months leading to the recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. These speculations are based on the change in the French and Italian attitudes toward the Palestine question since the Palestinians' departure from Tripoli. Therefore, the U.S. Administration and the Zionists are currently doing their best to stop this development by bringing the West European stand closer to the U.S. stand, which is hostile to the Palestine question.

But while it seems that the visit will not achieve its objectives, Chancellor Kohl, who has endured the pressures of the Zionist figures in his government and of his U.S. ally in Bonn, may not be able to endure to the end. This is because Tel Aviv has other kinds of pressures to bear, which seek to cancel the FRG as an independent state and which seek to attach FRG policy to the enemy's policy. Although the path itself is deadlocked, the obstacles being erectedby the arrogant and extortionist Zionist policy before the FRG will make continuation along this path very difficult, if not impossible.It now behoves the German people, opposition parties, and government to put an end to Zionist blackmail.

'Arafat Visits Romania, Meets Ceausescu

For reportage on the visit by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Romania on 28-29 January and his meeting with Romanian Communist Party General Secretary Ceausescu, see the Romanian section of the 30 January Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

KUWAIT

Iraqi Oil Minister Arrives for Surprise Visit

LD280734 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0718 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 27 Jan (KUNA) — Iraqi Minister of Oil Qasim Ahmad Taqi arrived here today for brief surprise visit. He was met on his arrival by the minister of oil and finance, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah.

Brings Saddam Husayn Message

LD281114 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The amir of Kuwait at 1030 today received the Iraqi minister of petroleum, Qasim Ahmad Taqi, who delivered to him a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The audience took place in the presence of the Kuwaiti minister of oil and finance, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi and the Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait.

Joint Air Exercises With Saudi Arabia Praised

LD292147 Kuwait KUNA in English 1628 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 29 (KUNA) — A senior army officer Sunday praised the high morale and combat readiness displayed by participants in the joint Saudi-Kuwaiti air exercise, which comes to a close here this week.

Deputy commander of 'Ali al-Salim airbase, Lt-Col. Salim 'Abd ar-Rahman, stated that squadrons of Skyhawk, Mirage and F-5 planes had taken part in the exercise and announced that more planes, including helicopters, will take part in the next exercise which will be staged in Bahrain during the latter half of 1984.

Col. Salim extolled the performance of Saudi and Kuwaiti pilots taking part in the manueuvers, as well as the smooth coordination and cooperation with supporting ground units, and paid special tribute to members of the Saudi air force team, led by Commander Prince Turki ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz.

PDRY

Parliamentary Talks With Kuwait Begin 28 Jan

GF281406 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Parliamentary talks between the PDRY and the fraternal State of Kuwait were held in a fraternal spirit at the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council this morning.

The PDRY side at the talks was chaired by Brother Staff Brigadier 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; while the Kuwaiti side was headed by Brother Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani, chairman of the Kuwaiti National Assembly.

At the beginning of the meeting, Brother 'Ali 'Antar welcomed — in the name of the PDRY — Brother al-'Adasani and the delegation accompanying him and noted the importance of this visit, which is being made by the brothers from Kuwait and which will consolidate the fraternal parliamentary relations within the framework of the developing and improving relations between the two fraternal countries in various fields. He highly assessed the role of Kuwait, both the government and people, in supporting the PDRY and its positive contribution to the execution of a number of vital projects since the first years of independence. He said that the PDRY followed with concern and anxiety the recent incidents to which Kuwait was subjected.

For his side, Brother Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani, chairman of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, expressed his pleasure at the visit which he is currently paying to the PDRY, and at his meeting with the brother officials to acquaint himself with the parliamentary experience in the PDRY and to exchange views and expertise in this field. He said that this visit will enable him to familiarize himself with the development being achieved by the PDRY people in constructing their new life. He hailed the developments in the PDRY, and also hailed the efforts which are being exerted to reunite the two parts of Yemen and the Yemeni positions which are aimed at consolidating stability in the region.

Parliamentary relations between the PDRY and Kuwait, as well as the means of developing them, were discussed during the talks. Bilateral relations in a number of fields, the situation in the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, and Arab and international situations were also discussed.

The Kuwaiti parliamentary delegation placed a wreath of flowers at the memorial statue of the martyrs of the revolution this morning. The delegation was received at the entrance of the statue's square by Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah al-'Arashi, chairman of the executive office of the local people's council in Aden Province.

Lebanese Communist Officials Arrive for Visit

GF281421 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Organization of Communist Action in Lebanon, arrived in Aden at dawn today on a visit which will last for several days in the PDRY.

ANA said that Brother Muhsin Ibrahim will discuss during his meetings with the officials in the party and government developments in the situation in the Lebanese arena and Arab region, and questions of cooperation between the YSP and the Organization of Communist Action in Lebanon.

Brother Nadim 'Abd as-Samat, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party, also arrived in Aden at dawn today on a visit which will last for several days, during which he will hold talks with the officials in the party and government on the developments in the situation in the Lebanese and Arab arenas.

They were received by a number of officials at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat.

YSP Chairman Receives Visitors

GF291010 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received yesterday evening Brother Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Organization of Communist Action in Lebanon [OCAL].

During this meeting, they discussed the issues related to the struggle relations between the YSP and the OCAL, and the means to strengthen and develop them, in addition to the current developments in the Lebanese arena in particular and the Arab arena in general. They also discussed the means to strengthen the unity of the Arab national and progressive forces in order to confront the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary (?plots) and provocations which threaten the Arab national liberation movement.

The brother secretary general expressed concern for the escalation of U.S.-Israeli interference in Lebanese affairs. He saluted the struggle of the Lebanese people and their national and progressive forces in their efforts to put an end to the U.S.-Israeli occupation of Lebanon, and maintain Lebanon's unity, Arabism and independence. He reaffirmed that the PDRY party, people and government will resume their firm stand next to the struggle of the Lebanese people and their just national rights.

For his part, Brother Muhsin Ibrahim praised the principled and firm stance of our party and country next to the struggle of the Lebanese people and their national struggle. He saluted the PDRY's role within the framework of the Arab national liberation movement, affirming the (?importance) of strengthening the firm alliance between the YSP and OCAL in the course of the struggle to strengthen the unity of the Arab national liberation movement and mobilize the national progressive capabilities in the Arab arena and to confront the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary assault.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Receives Arab League Head

LD281538 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, this morning had a meeting with General Secretary of the Arab League Chadli Klibi, who arrived in Riyadh earlier today. A number of issues in the Arab and international arenas were reviewed during the meeting, which lasted about 1 hour.

After the meeting, the general secretary of the Arab League told SPA that he discussed with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal all arrangements concerning the forthcoming Arab summit conference to be held in Riyadh. Klibi stressed that he found every determination and full cooperation on the part of the Kingdom to continue Arab efforts to prepare the climate in the Arab world so as to ensure the success of the forthcoming summit conference.

He pointed out that preparations for the Riyadh summit began many months ago. Klibi said: I paid repeated visits to the Kingdom for this purpose, during which I was received by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and then I paid visits to a number of Arab countries for the same purpose.

British Defense Secretary Pays Official Visit

LD291811 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1735 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, 29 Jan (SPA) — British Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine arrived in Riyadh this evening for a 2-day official visit to the Kingdom.

He was welcomed at King Khalid International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; by assistant to the minister of defense and aviation for military affairs 'Uthman al-Humayd; by the chief of the General Staff, General Muhammad Salih al-Hammad; by British Ambassador to the Kingdom James Craig; and by a number of senior commanders and officers of the Armed Forces.

His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz welcomed the British defense secretary's visit to the Kingdom, saying: This visit comes at the invitation of the Ministry of Defense and Aviation. In a statement to newsmen after his welcome to the British defense secretary, His Highness Prince Sultan said that his talks with Mr. Heseltine will touch upon the cooperation existing between the Kingdom and Britain in the military domain, including the purchase of certain weapons it is using, like the lightning aircraft and so forth.

His highness stressed that there exists excellent cooperation with Britain concerning training in the technical institute, training in Dhahran and in the King Faysal air institute, expressing his hope that this cooperation will develop for the best between the two states.

To a question on whether the talks will deal with the question of the lightning aircraft, His Highness Prince Sultan said that discussions will be on what is best, emphasizing that the lightning aircraft is a great aircraft and that it will be used for several years.

Concerning a question on the preparedness of West German Chancellor Kohl to hold talks with the Kingdom for the purchase of weapons needed by the Kingdom, His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz said: As I said before, this concerns the government of Germany. If it wants to sell arms, we are prepared to buy, and if it does not want to, then this would be for its own interests.

Meanwhile, British Ambassador to the Kingdom James Craig said that the visit of the British defense secretary comes in the context of consultations and coordination between the Kingdom and Britain on the cooperation existing in the domain of military affairs, pointing out that this cooperation involves airplanes and training — as well as everything else of interest to the two friendly countries — and strengthening relations between the Kingdom and Britain.

In a statement to SPA, the British ambassador said: We are pinning great hopes on this visit.

Report on Pershing Missile Deployment Denied

GF290744 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] An official source at the Kingdom's Defense and Aviation Ministry announced yesterday that what was published by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* in its issue No 3208 and released on 27 January, quoting a Cypriot cast under the headline: "Saudi Arabia Has Agreed to the Deployment of Pershing Missiles on Its Territories," is totally unfounded, fabricated news, and totally untrue.

The source expressed its extreme regret and astonishment at a genuine Arab newspaper publishing such tendentious news, which is fabricated and propagated by the enemy's media against the Kingdom's government and against the fraternal Arab countries.

The source said: It was better for this newspaper — which is published in a fraternal and dear Arab country — to rise above and avoid repeating what is being said by malicious enemies and those who are being bribed against the Arab and Islamic nations. These critical circumstances require total alertness from everyone, particularly from the Arab media which uncover all the conspiracies in our region, the dimensions and goals of which are related by all the media people and writers.

UAE

Moroccan Officials Arrive for 1-Week Visit

GF300632 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0557 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Jan (WAM) — Moroccan Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism Azzedine Guessous arrived in the UAE early today. He leads a large economic delegation of Moroccan businessmen and industrialists on a 1-week visit to the UAE.

The delegation was received at the airport by Economy and Trade Minister Sayf ibn 'Ali al-Jarwan.

YAR

President Salih Returns From Netherlands, FRG

GF281212 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] San'a', 28 Jan (WAKH) — YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih returned to San'a' from Amsterdam today after a visit to the Netherlands and the FRG.

The YAR president participated in the meetings of the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference which were held in Casablanca, Morocco.

Soviet Ambassador Delivers Message From Andropov

GF291809 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, this evening received His Excellency Oleg Peresypkin, the Soviet Union's ambassador in San'a'.

The ambassador delivered a message from Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov which includes an invitation to visit the Soviet Union.

Joint Committee Meetings With Iraq Begin

GF281100 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The meetings of the Iraqi-YAR joint committee for economic and technical cooperation began in San'a' today. The Iraqi side is led by Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction, and the YAR side is led by engineer Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayn, minister of development and the head of the central organ for planning.

During the committee's meetings, issues concerning joint cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, health and education will be discussed.

Reportage on ICO Delegation's Egypt Visit

Guinea President Heads Delegation

JN291707 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Ttext] Cairo, 29 Jan (MENA) — The tripartite committee established by the fourth ICO summit conference which convened recently in Rabat [as received] to visit Egypt and call on it to resume its membership in the ICO, led by Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure, will arrive in Cairo tomorrow morning, Monday. The committee also comprises Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Ali Khan, and ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti.

Mubarak Receives Toure

NC300659 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text]Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA)—Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived here this morning at the head of a tripartite ICO delegation. The Guinea president was received by President Husni Mubarak, who accompanied him to Al-Qubbah Palace, where an official reception was accorded the distinguished guest.

'Ali, Veliotes View Political, Economic Issues

NC281822 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 28 Jan (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that he and Nicolas Veliotes, U.S. ambassador in Cairo, reviewed all of the subjects pertaining to relations between the two countries in the political and economic spheres.

He said that with regard to the political situation, they reviewed events in the Middle East, particularly as regards the Palestinian issue, and the contacts made by Egypt and the United States with the various sides. 'Ali said that during the meeting he underlined the Egyptian political line in dealing with this issue, represented in the encouragement of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks [words indistinct] the current political line of Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, which became clear at the ICO summit conference, and the need to solve the Palestinian problem simultaneously with the Lebanese issue as quickly as possible.

'Ali said the meeting also dealt with [words indistinct], the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the need to work to bring about its conclusion.

He added that with regard to the economic aspect, they discussed ways to promote bilateral economic relations, particularly in light of the proposals the U.S. Administration presented to Congress regarding economic (?aid) to Egypt.

Ghali Confers With Visiting Finnish Official

NC281408 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 28 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Klaus Tornudd, Finnish foreign minister under secretary, who is currently visiting Egypt. Attending the meeting was the Finnish ambassador to Cairo. Dr Ghali and the Finnish official discussed the latest developments concerning the Middle East problem, the Lebanese crisis, African issues, and the ongoing disarmament conference in Stockholm.

Tornudd arrived in Cairo on 26 January on a 4-day visit to Egypt, during which he will hold talks with senior Egyptian officials regarding the Middle East situation, bilateral relations, and ways to enhance those relations in various spheres. The talks will alsotouch on Finland's participation in a number of development projects, particularly in the area of communications.

Ash-Sharif Returns From Jakarta 29 January

NC291416 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, today returned to Cairo from Jakarta. He said that Egypt submitted a number of positive proposals during the Nonaligned Information Ministers' Conference, including the establishment of an information development fund to serve those states incapable of importing modern technology.

Opposition Paper Criticizes U.S. 'Pressure'

PM282015 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 24 Jan 84 p 11

['Abd al-Qadir Shuhayb article: "Dangers of the U.S. Aid to Egypt: U.S. Pressure on Egypt Continues"]

[Excerpts] In its latest periodic report, the U.S. Embassy in Cairo openly admits that the United States uses its financial aid to Egypt as a means of exerting political pressure on it. The report, prepared in October, says that the delay in Egypt's debt installment repayments has made bankers more cautious over giving Egypt credit facilities. The papers which reported a delay in some of Egypt's installment repayments were all American. Egypt was only late in the repayment of two monthly installments of U.S. military debts. The delay did not exceed 2 months, but the news was leaked to the U.S. press to undermine Egypt's economic reputation and scare off international banks. The U.S. Embassy report admits this. The U.S. Embassy's report does not only admit U.S. pressure on Egypt, but also seeks to direct Egypt's economy in the interest of the United States and world monopolies and against the interests of the vast majority of Egyptian people.

The U.S. Embassy report is not the first of its kind in which the United States trys to impose certain policies on Egypt. The U.S. Embassy, the largest foreign embassy in Cairo in terms of personnel, prepares a regular biannual report on the Egyptian economy. These reports always contain U.S. demands on Egypt.

The United States used to initially draft its demands and exert its pressures in a diplomatic way, but with the increase in U.S. financial aid and loans, that diplomacy was abandoned.

In 1978 Secretary of State Cyrus Vance sent a tender letter to the second advisory group in Paris. In it he said:"We in the

United States are happy over the reforms introduced by the Egyptian Government, but realize perfectly well that much remains to be done to expand the economic reform program." Over 4 years later Mr Stone, head of the U.S. Development Board, delivered a lecture at the American Center in which he called for a dialogue with Egypt to formulate Egypt's economic policy. In other words, he frankly wanted the United States, by virtue of its aid to Egypt, to steer the Egyptian economy. He added that he did not consider that an interference in Egyptian domestic affairs or policies.

The strange thing is that Egyptian officials have remained silent over these statements and all U.S. Embassy reports, and silence means acceptance. In the meantime, Egyptian officials considered the Soviet *PRAVDA*'s criticism of the way the Consultative Council elections were conducted as Soviet interference in Egypt's domestic affairs, and have accordingly refused to exchange ambassadors with the Soviet Union.

AL-AHRAM Criticizes Israel's Stand on Saudi Arms

NC300721 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 30 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "The Arm-Twisting Policy," *AL-AHRAM* writes: Since his arrival in Israel, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl has been subjected to difficult stands and harsh tests. The FRG chancellor has clashed with demands on the official and informational level asking him to refrain from supplying arms to Saudi Arabia. This is a detested stand, because it is nothing more than blatant intervention in the very heart of the domestic affairs of a big sovereign state.

Commentary on Government's Mideast Efforts

NC271448 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "The Effects of Egyptian Activity in Promoting the Arab Challenge from Which Israel Is Steering Away"]

[Text] President Husni Mubarak has accepted an invitation to visit Jordan and Iraq from King Husayn and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. In our opinion, this is the result of positive steps which are being made daily along the road of peace and for the establishment of Arab rights. This is consistent with Egypt's steps to achieve Arab rights and denounce any violation of those rights. Egypt's recent message to the Security Council — denouncing the Israeli Knesset's recent move to pass a law extending the validity of Israeli legislation over the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and introducing an amendment to the emergency laws in effect in the occupied territories — had a positive effect on the Council. The Security Council yesterday called on Israel, following consultations by its members on this message and a similar one from the PLO, to refrain from taking new steps that would increase tension in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It is clear that the introduction of amendments to emergency laws in effect in the occupied territories will make it possible for Israeli authorities to substitute those laws for Jordanian laws, which remain in effect in certain West Bank areas, as a step toward its annexation to Israel with the other occupied Arab lands. Israel has been going ahead with this plan, disregarding all moves to solve the problem through peaceful means, as it has found these moves lacking in authority. Israel, at the same time, sees there is no pressure that can force it to abide by international will, and no interested party in the Middle East, including even the United States, has found any reason to make it abrogate its commitments toward Israel — even if those commitments have reached the point of renouncing the rights of others.

Israel has been proceeding with its plans, claiming that it wishes to negotiate with King Husayn. However, it rejects his conditions for negotiations, that is, to stop building settlements. It is resisting any attempt for King Husayn's participation in negotiations with the Palestinians — a dialogue that could lead to negotiations with Israel. It is steering away from negotiations with any Arab grouping. It claims to find no Arab desiring to negotiate, thus justifying its persistence in its plans on the pretext of the need for security in a world that rejects it. That is the story. In our opinion, if the Arabs were to respond to Egypt's efforts which advocate solidarity, and were to call on Israel to sit down with them to negotiation all aspects pertaining to their usurped rights and its false claims; if the Arabs were to link cooperation with any interested party in the area to that party's serious and unrestrained efforts to regain the legitimate Arab rights, then this would have constituted a positive challenge to Israel which no party with vital interests in the area could ignore.

Anti-Israeli Intellectuals Receive Death Threats

PM282025 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 24 Jan 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Death Threats for Opposing Israel and Zionism"]

[Text] A number of Egyptian intellectuals last week received letters threatening them with death if they did not cease with their anti-Israeli and anti-Zionist activities. It was noted that all the letters were the same, typewritten in English and signed K.A.K.H., and all were posted in Cairo. The following were among those who received such letters: Dr Latifah az-Zayyat, chairwoman of the Committee for the Protection of National Culture; Dr 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Masiri, author of the Zionist Almanac, and his assistant, Muhammad Hisham; and Mustafa Bakri, author of two books on Zionism. They have informed the security authorities about the letters.

Liberal Party Leader on Election Strategy

PM270851 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 23 Jan 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Mustafa Kamil Murad Emphasizes: One Opposition List or Boycott of Elections"]

[Text] Liberal Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad has underscored the need for a united opposition in the forthcoming parliamentary elections. He told *AL-AHRAR* following the

National Committee for the Defense of Democracy's meeting that the opposition has only two options:

1. That all opposition parties without exception join hands and enter the elections with one list under the name of one of the opposition parties to be agreed upon. That way the opposition can win a majority of seats and form a coalition government that would establish a sound democracy in Egypt.

2. That all opposition parties boycott the elections if the government does not meet the opposition's demands aimed at ensuring impartiality, especially the demand for abolishing the 8-percent requirement.

Mustafa Kamil Murad warned that separate entry of the various opposition parties would result in rivalry among them as well as rivalry with the NDP in which case the NDP would win more than a two-thirds majority, while at the most three opposition parties would each manage to garner 8 per cent [of the vote] but no more than 25 percent of the People's Assembly seats. The result, he said, would be a feeble opposition and incomplete democracy in Egypt for 5 more years. The National Committee for the Defense of Democracy held a lengthy meeting on Friday to make final arrangements for the conference of patriotic forces scheduled for 'Abidin Square on 9 February. All opposition parties and political trends will be represented at the conference.

President, Cabinet Meet for 5 Hours 29 January

JN291326 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn presided over a Cabinet meeting today. During the meeting, which lasted approximately 5 hours, several items on the agenda were discussed and the appropriate decisions were made. The Cabinet meeting was attended by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president; RCC members; Ba'th Party regional command members; ministers; and state officials.

Armed Forces General Command Communiques

Communique No 1,354

JN271644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1622 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jan (INA) — The Iraqi forces have killed 12 Iranians in Maysan and the central sector of the front. Communique No 1,354 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that the Iranian regime has shelled Zurbatiyah and its environs with artillery damaging a number of civilian establishments. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,354 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces are continuing their brave operations against the forces of the Iranian clique of evil and aggression. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. In the central sector of the front, our forward units used various kinds of weapons to pound an enemy troop concentration and a number of enemy positions opposite our forces' positions. Our forces killed 11 Iranians and wounded others. Five enemy infantry positions were destroyed and those manning them were either killed or wounded.

2. In the area east of Basra, our forward units used artillery to pound enemy concentrations and units opposite our positions scoring effective, direct hits.

3. One was killed and one infantry position destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. Today, the enemy shelled Surbatiyah and its environs with artillery damaging a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 January 1984.

Communique No 1,355

JN281720 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military communique said that the Iranian forces have suffered eight killed and a number of wounded in the operational sectors. Communique No 1,355 issued tonight by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that the Iraqi forces have also destroyed an infantry position in the Maysan sector, killing all those inside it. The Iraqi forces inflicted on the Iranian forces losses in lives and equipment in the area east of Basra. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,355 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With relentless determination and unbeatable will, the sons of our daring Army continue their valiant activities against the aggressive Iranian forces. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units used artillery to deal with an enemy troops concentration opposite their positions in the Maysan operational sector. Our forces killed eight Iranians and wounded others. They also destroyed on infantry position, killing all those who were inside it.

2. Our forward units dealt artillery blows against the enemy targets opposite their positions in the area east of Basra, inflicting on them losses in lives and equipment.

3. Three infantry positions were destroyed in the central sector of the operational theater.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 January 1984

Communique No 1,356

JN291655 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jan (INA) — A military communique issued here this evening reported that during the past 24 hours the Iranian forces sustained two killed, and the destruction of two hardware stockpiles and three infantry positions whose occupants were hit, as well as the destruction of one 106-mm gun whose crew was killed.

Iraqi Communique No 1,356 issued by the Armed Forces General Command added that the Iranian enemy shelled Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari) and their suburbs, damaging several civilian installations. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,356 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces continue their triumphant activities against the forces of the treacherous Khomeyniite enemy. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing two and destroying one hardware stockpile and three infantry positions whose occupants were hit.

2. Our forward units shelled several enemy targets opposite their positions east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits, and destroying one 106-mm gun whose crew was killed.

3. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

4. The treacherous Iranian enemy today shelled Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandri) and their suburbs, damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 January 1984

Air Force Commander on Recent Air Raids
JN281340 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Jan (INA) — The commander of the Air Force and Air defense has stressed that the missions the Iraqi Air Force has carried out prove its ability and effectiveness to reach any selected target deep in Iran. In a statement to INA today, the commander of the Air Force said that those missions were timed and carried out in accordance with a prepared plan on selected vital Iranian targets which the enemy thought that our strong Air Force could not reach. He added: The missions carried out by our daring Air Force were not a picnic or for show.

The valiant eagles of our Air Force carried out daring missions the day before yesterday. Formations of our Air Force overflew a number of the Iranian vital targets, cities, and ports to warn the Iranian rulers that Iraq possesses a deterrent force that can be used whenever necessary against any new aggression Iraq might be exposed to.

Embassy in Kuwait Issues Statement on Explosions
JN271851 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jan (INA) — The Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait has asserted that those who carried out the crime of explosions in Kuwait last month are members of the Iranian Ad-Da'wah Party and that they are of Iranian origin. These persons, the embassy added, had also carried out sabotage activities in Iraq before carrying out the Kuwaiti explosions.

The embassy issued a statement in response to reports in certain newspapers on 26 January which say that a number of those accused of carrying out the explosions were Iraqis. The embassy said that these persons were (discovered?) by the Iraqi authorities. Some of them fled Iraq and settled mostly in their country of origin, Iran, which sends them from time to time to the countries of this region to commit murders and carry out sabotage activities in order to promote Iran's anti-Arab racist, expansionist, and sectarian policy.

The statement noted that the Iraqi aurthorities had supplied the Kuwaiti authorities with detailed information on the presence of those criminals in Kuwait before the explosions. The Iraqi authorities had earlier supplied the Kuwaitis with the names of most of the wanted criminals and warned against the consequences of their presence in Kuwait.

The Iraqi statement stressed that Iraq has been and will continue to be that proud Arab who will crush all the swindlers who bear grudges against Arabism.

190 Iranian POW's Repatriated Through Turkey
JN282222 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated the following:

On 22 December 1983 Iraq asked the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] to act as a mediator in order to hand over to Iran 190 prisoners of war in exchange for nothingvia Turkey and under the ICRC's supervision. The Turkish Government agreed to our request and that of the ICRC. It has been agreed to carry out the operation on Sunday, 29 January 1984, in Ankara.

Iraq, eager to respect and implement its international commitments and abide by the 1949 Geneva war conventions, proves by this unilateral decision the continuation of its humanitarian trend, proceeding from its Islamic heritage and the principles of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. Iraq's initiative to hand over the Iranian prisoner children was another proof of its humanitarian trend, in addition to Iraq's several proposals and initiatives which called for concluding an agreement with Iran to keep the civilians and civilian targets from the woes of war and military operations.

Thus, we find that Iraq has, from the beginning, not spared any effort to propose one initiative after another in order to reach an acceptable solution to the problem of prisoners of war in implementation of the Islamic teachings and the human princples of international law. However, these initiatives have always been rejected by the Iranian rulers.

The intransigence of the ruling clique in Iran and its disregard of Islamic teachings, human principles, and international law have not prevented Iraq from continuing to offer unilateral humanitarian initiatives in the service of the noble aims of humanity that call for establishing fraternal and good neighborly relations with the Iranian people who are fighting against the ignorance and tyranny that are embodied by the corrupt Khomeyniite regime in Iran.

Iran Receives Prisoners 29 Jan
JN291408 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Ankara, 29 Jan (INA) — This afternoon Iran received 190 Iranian POW's, who are victims of the Iraqi-Iranian war. A special Iraqi plane arrived in Ankara this afternoon with the POW's on board in implementation of Iraq's request to the International Committee of the Red Cross to mediate in handing these POW's over to Iran. Iraq has decided to unilaterally hand these prisoners over through Turkey, in exchange for nothing.

King Husayn Holds Two Press Conferences

Jordanian, Arab Newsmen

JN281520 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Report on press conference given by King Husayn in Amman on 28 January for local and Arab news media correspondents; carried in "Newsreel" program — questions read by announcer, king's answers recorded]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn held two press conferencesat noon today, during which he met with local and Arab journalists and with correspondents of news agencies and world news media. During these two meetings, his majesty talked about a number of local issues, the current Arab situation, and recent Middle East developments. His Majesty King Husayn defined Jordan's stand toward these developments, particularly those related to the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship and the proposed peace plans. He stressed the principles and stands which Jordan has firmly adopted out of faith in the justice of the Arab cause.

The following are the proceedings of the first press conference during which his majesty met with the representatives of the local and Arab press and news media. We will broadcast the second news conference in our later news programs.

His Majesty King Husayn began by welcoming the members of the Jordanian press and the representatives of the Arab news media and press. He emphasized the important role of the news media in the various aspects of the development process, expressing his pleasure at meeting with the local and Arab press staff. His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] I am extremely happy and satisfied to have this opportunity to meet with the news media brothers in Jordan and the Arab homeland. I apologize because circumstances did not enable me to meet with you before now. We value highly the major role being played by you in our great homeland in the face of challenges and dangers.

We are eager to keep in continuous touch with you out of our feeling of responsibility toward you so that we can enable you to become acquainted with the whole picture of our ideas and work. We hope that contacts between us as partners in assuming responsibility will continue to be strong under all circumstances. Thank you for waiting until today for this meeting. Instead of continuing my talk — and you have heard a great deal in the past — I will give you the chance to ask questions. I will try to answer as much as I know or can think of. [end recording]

Afterward, His Majesty King Husayn answered the journalists' questions. Asked about his majesty's concept of Jordan's economic and social future, he said:

[Begin recording] Perhaps the challenges and dangers we are facing in this part of the greater Arab homeland have enabled us to react through awareness and determination — as is the case now — in terms of the Jordanian family to which we are affiliated in a serious attempt to rise to the required level in terms of promoting our capabilities and potentials and working for some sort of self-reliance and strength so that we can march ahead under all circumstances. One of our constant targets was to try, as much as possible, to be an example to our brothers and to the others in this world. Our basic and principal asset is the human being in this homeland with his courage, farsightedness, determination, adherence to land, and enlightenment. On the other hand, we had to make all chances available for him so that he is always qualified to confront challenges and capable of doing this. We have made large strides in this regard, praise be to God, although these strides were relatively short in comparison with what we hope for and want.

Jordan is marching quickly toward the situation under which it can achieve much that has been doubted by many vis-a-vis its ability to stand on tis feet and depend on itself. We thank God that what was accomplished during the past few years gives us great hope that we will reach this target within a very short time. There are many projects, and we are continuously trying to prepare our citizens. This is a priority.

On the other hand, we are considering our land and our capabilities as well as our wealth, which is hidden in this land, in order to exploit this wealth in the best possible manner. We are also considering industrialization within a reasonable plan. We will also exert efforts to prepare the citizen to contribute to progress in the Arab region as a whole. This should take place by providing the citizen with science so he can reach a level where he can deal with the modern equipment that we see in our country and will see in the Arab homeland in the future. Therefore, we hope we will achieve a new and broad leap in the technical and practical fields with regard to Jordan.

Phosphate and potasium and its derivatives are two aspects of our wealth, and we are doing our best to explore the resources of energy or find alternatives to them such as solar energy. The possibilities are so wide that I cannot give you a complete picture during this meeting. But we have confidence in ourselves and that our march will reach its aims and we will achieve our goals, with God's help [end recording]

On enemy campaigns to cast doubts on Jordan's measure to reconvene parliamentary life, his majesty said:

[Begin recording] Regarding the trumpets and their owners, the Arab nation will judge them. History's judgment is a hard one but in most cases it is just. Let them say what they want and let them cast doubts. We ask Almighty God to guide their steps, one of these days, to the right course.

Regarding the latest steps taken in this homeland, the heart of the Arab homeland, which continues its steadfastness on the longest confrontation line, or regarding the occupied land where people continue their steadfastness against the most difficult and fiercest practices of the occupier of that dear part of our greater homeland, the process is a simple one. It concerns us. That step was taken for many reasons. I shall summarize these reasons: First, we feel that we belong to the some family and we have a common march and destiny. The danger we faceis threatening us just as it is threatening this nation. We are the first who will be affected by the results. On the other hand, we have never and will never give up our kinfolk and brothers. We are proud of what they have achieved through their adherence to the land, their steadfastness and firmness, and their assumption of responsibility for others' faults. We will not leave them to the enemies and their objectives which are represented by devouring the land and causing more harm, to them and to us.

The unity and the first parliamentary decision in the early 1950's proved that this relationship by no means affects the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable rights regarding a just and honorable solution to the question. The unity was established to confront a catastrophe, to build a force, and to stand fast in the face of dangers and challenges. The family is one family. It is true that the Jordanian adheres to his identity and the Palestinian adheres to his identity, but at the same time, we are members of one family and one march.

When the Arab summit resolution was drafted in Rabat in 1974 regarding the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, we committed ourselves to that resolution and we also implemented it. This resolution did not affect our situation, nor did it force us to take measures regarding our parliamentary and constitutional life. To be more frank, no one in this world has the right to interfere in the domestic affairs of any country — especially regarding constitutional matters that have a relationship with the country's life and sovereignty. However, in light of what has taken place, we wanted to give the PLO the opportunity to entrench its existence in this world and to rise to the level where it could perform its duty and play its role in order to help all of us with our support for it.

The basis of my life is to serve this country and this march; it is an oath that I have taken to safeguard the Constitution. I will never break this oath under any conditions as long as I live.

Recently, we clearly realized that within days we would find ourselves in a very serious situation. Past years contributed to crystallizing this situation to a point where we were about to lose the ability to call for a meeting of the Parliament due to a lack of a quorum. And, consequently, we would have reached a very serious impasse. Our parliamentary and constitutional march would have been suspended due to the inability to call on the people's representatives to amend the Constitution in order to continue the life that we have safeguarded. We are proud of the participation of all the members of this family in formulating the policy and building the homeland. In this regard, the situation was clear.

The PLO was informed that we would take such measures. We had to chose the right time and proper circumstances so that the Parliament members could be present here without drawing attention to these measures. We wanted to avoid obstacles that would prevent us from meeting and arranging our house and march. The meeting has taken place and the Constitution has been amended. I am very pleased with this real participation by the members of this family here and their assumption of the responsibility to crystallize the policy and strengthen our steadfastness in the face of all challenges and dangers.

There are other factors. For instance, regarding the occupied territories, we have followed and are still following with great concern the attempts and plans to relocate a great part of our kinfolk and brothers in the Jordan valley, as it was said, and also the attempt to apply Israeli laws, especially the land law, in the occupied territories. In my view and in the view of everyone here, the relocation plan is the first move to evict these kinfolk and brothers from their land.

There is also the reality in which we and the entire region are now experiencing. Attempts have been made to liquidate the free PLO, which represents the will of this people. The existence of this organization is justified by its action to liberate the land, kinfolk, and brothers. Therefore, under all cases and circumstances, the PLO must derive its strength from the people whose hopes, aspirations, and reality it represents.

We have experienced the tragic attempt to liquidate the PLO and thus create a new gap in a most serious phase of our history. The liquidation of the PLO would enable our enemy to carry out the rest of its plans to swallow up the land and eliminate any hope of regaining it.

We are still experiencing Lebanon's tragedy. It is the tragedy of all tragedies. That fraternal land is mutilated and ravaged. Many of our kinfolk, brothers, and sons fell as martyrs. There is the partition whose features we now see clearly. There is also the presence of Israeli and other forces on Lebanese territory. Moreover, the Lebanese people and sons have been deprived of the right to act freely so as to ensure a return to the situation where the country will be able to safeguard its unity and independence and exercise its full sovereignty over all of its territories.

This is one side of the picture. The other side of the picture which concerns the Palestine question and our Jordanian-Palestinian family is that there are hundreds of thousands of our kinfolk and brothers who have existed on Lebanese territory since 1948. We are, of course, very concerned about their situation just as we are concerned about the Lebanese kinfolk and brothers and the fate of Lebanon.

The region is going through a difficult time which is also affecting us. Large numbers of our sons and kinfolk have recently returned to Jordan from the Gulf area. As for Israel, it has repeatedly said that the question is one of people, and not of land, and that the question of the Palestinians should be solved on land that is not Palestinian.

In our recent measure, I believe we have dealt with many of the things that I have mentioned and that we have established the situation on sound bases. Jordan is Jordan and Palestine is Palestine, and the two sides are members of one family and one march. Jordan will never abandon its kinfolk and brothers and will not stop its efforts to achieve justice, to save the land and the holy places, and to restore the rights to their owners.

The formula which was reached in the fifties is in harmony with what we have called and are calling anew: a balanced relationship satisfying every Jordanian and Palestinian forever, God willing; a relationship safeguarding the rights of both sides and achieving cooperation on the strongest bases founded on mutual confidence, clear vision, and the determination that Jordanian-Palestinian action will form the nucleus for action, after this long slumber, for the sake of Palestine and the Arab nation.

Praise be to God, the plans to liquidate the PLO and create a new organization representing Palestine in name only have failed. The intention was to use such an organization to control Palestinian willpower and make it serve the personal ends of certain people in the Arab world against the true feelings and interrests of the Palestinian people. The plans did not work out and the PLO was saved.

We have been holding a continuous dialogue with the PLO. In this phase and in the coming phase, we are very concerned about resuming this dialogue as soon as possible in order to develop the ideal formula for the future Jordanian-Palestinian relationship on the basis of our sense of duty, what reality imposes on us, and the responsibilities we are assuming. We would then turn to our Arab nation and tell our kinfolk and brothers everywhere: We are the ones facing the dangers. We are the owners of the cause and the common destiny and objective. This is what we think about this or that subject. We hope you will support and assist us. After that, we will consider our situation and what we are facing. We will look at all the alternatives and courses on the basis that it behooves us to place the initiative in the Arab hand.

We have waited a long time. Despite the shocks and blows we have received and the catastrophes that have befallen us, our reactions all this time have always been short of the appropriate stands required. We have always failed to face the danger with the proper stands. The Palestine question is the strongest and most just cause. Therefore, we should prepare ourselves to defend it and serve it and defend justice; otherwise, failure will be the inevitable result of our inability to rise to the required level to serve this question.

There is a priority; it is to organize our joint action. We will try with all sincerity and truth to transform this into a reality at the ealiest opportunity. Our one family is part of this march.

Regarding the situation in our Arab homeland, we feel that we must hold contacts and dialogue with the kinfolk and brothers everywhere in the great homeland. We will try to change the picture, the meaning, and the purport. This nation cannot continue to be fettered and incapable of taking any action. It has been proved that our method of trying to take any step through unanimity concerning any decision or subject is tough, difficult, and even an impossible process. In one way or another, the majority must take action. Everyone in this Arab world must know that he cannot continue to stand by as a spectator even if temporarily remote from any danger. The responsibilities must be assumed courageously. We must save our credibility as an Arab nation in this world. We must also pool our capabilities and resources to make others in this world respect our willpower.

The two priorities are: First, the Jordanians and Palestinians must be one hand and one heart to face the challenge and danger, save the land and kinfolk, and restore the rights to their owners. Second, we must work with our brothers in the Arab homeland to build our capabilities and resources so that we can carry out our duty for the sake of the coming Arab generations. Thank you. [end recording]

Regarding the proposed peace intiiatives and the possibility of achieving peace in the region, his majesty said about his ideas on the principles of peace:

[Begin recording] I do not have in mind any single peace initiative. The initiatives are many and diverse. Actually our line of thinking is to reorganize ourselves, Jordanians, Palestinians, and Arabs, in order to be in an ideal position where we can consider any proposal and work for our cause and for saving our rights and lands by every possible means.

Whether through politics or through building up our strength, something must be done in all cases. Our influence must be felt. This might be achieved when the majority in this Arab world practices its right to crystallize the policies, the construction of power, and the defense of right. I do not have in mind any political initiative. We are looking to the future.

We are also working to build our power, in the first place, and then we will consider what is being proposed or what may be proposed in the future. The objective is clear and duty dictates to us that we carry out our responsibilities toward our kinfolk and brothers in the occupied part of our land, the occupied part of Palestine, and toward ourselves and nation. Thank you. [end recording]

Answering a question on what the alternatives will be if the forthcoming discussions with the PLO do not produce a joint Palestinian-Jordanian formula, King Husayn expressed hope that these discussions will succeed. His majesty said:

[Begin recording] Frankly speaking, brother, I cannot go that far because logic, duty, and reality dictate that we all rise to the required level and achieve, during the coming period, the formula we are supposed to crystallize in a complete manner that will satisfy every single Jordanian and Palestinian. This formula will deal with the future relations among the members of the one family to face the danger and to rescue the land and the kinfolk. Our one Jordanian and Palestinian people and our nation will be the judge on this issue.

Stemming from our feeling of responsibility, we are sincerely proceeding to do what we can in order to achieve this objective. We hope the results will be positive. However, we will never give up our duty toward our kinfolk and brothers. As I said earlier, our destiny and objective are the same. Any harm or prosperity affects everyone in the same family. Time has proved this, for the Jordanians and Palestinians proceeded together in the same march, sacrificed their blood and sweated together, and they remained steadfast together in the face of danger. I have great hope that what we are seeking will be achieved. In this stage, I cannot think of the possibility of failure, God forbid. [end recording]

Asked about other measures to develop parliamentary life and on the impact of such measures on the press in Jordan, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] Regarding the Parliament, the formula which we have always adopted, which we are adopting, and which we will adopt in our future talks and discussions with the PLO is the formula of an evenhanded Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. Naturally, because of the status quo on the ground and until this status quo changes, we could not adopt any more measures other than what we have already done regarding the recent amendment of the Constitution and regarding the West Bank. The sons of our people have practiced their right regarding who will represent our kinfolk and brothers in the vacant seats in the West Bank. As for the East Bank, elections will be held to fill the vacant seats.

As for the press, both the government and myself hope that we can maintain continuous contacts with the press to brief you on any development or new event. We have great hope that you behave, write, and deal with things in a constructive and responsible spirit, stemming from your knowledge of the truth and looking at things in an optimistic manner.

When we consider our situation in the Arab world, people ask whether I am optimistic or pessimistic. I am always optimistic.

However, things cannot be worse. On the contrary, things will certainly improve. We are determined to sacrifice everything for this purpose. We pin great hopes on you because you are shouldering great responsibilities in briefing the people on what is going on and in contributing to the construction of power and ability. Through awareness, every one of us can perform his duties in a perfect manner. Thank you. [end recording]

At the press conference he held today, His Majesty King Husayn also answered a question on the rumors Israel is disseminating about the formation of a Jordanian rapid deployment force. His majesty stressed that the Jordanian Army is the heir to the great Arab revolution and the Army of all the Arabs. His majesty said:

[Begin recording] Jordan, in reality, is the heir to the great Arab revolution; it is committed to its objectives and aims, and eager to bring them to reality. This revolution erupted in our great homeland for the sake of the Arab individual's dignity and rights, and to safeguard Arab identity, freedom, and unity. The Arab Army is the decendant of the army of the revolution. All the members of these Armed Forces carry on their foreheads the insignia on which the Arab Army is mentioned. This Army has had the honor of the waging many battles in defense of Arab rights, the Arab homeland, and security and stability throughout the great homeland. All members of the Armed Forces know they have a duty to perform if so dictated by circumstances. There are many examples of this since the forties and until the present, and before this, during the great Arab revolution.

What is put forth now and what some enemy organs are trying to depict as being something different from what it is, with the purpose of inflicting harm, is not something new. Units from the Arab Army were in Kuwait at one time. They were also in Oman, where they fought. Our relationship with our kinfolk and brothers in the Gulf is based on trust. It is a relationship of cooperation and assistance. Thousands of our young men have left for the Gulf. Large numbers of them are there on training missions and in response to requests by our kinfolk and brothers to perform specific tasks such as preparing our kinfolk and brothers there to shoulder their responsibilities and to build their intrinsic strength.

We have always supported our brothers in Palestine in all the battles imposed on this nation. Many times, when various circumstances took place in various parts of the Arab homeland, we were ready to move with our forces to carry out our duty without hesitation. This is a psychological state which stems from our sense of responsibility toward our kinfolk and brothers. Stability in the Arab homeland will be our stability, its strength will also be our strength. We expect our kinfolk and brothers to stand on our side in difficult circumstances, and we always expect to be ready to assist them if they find themselves facing similar circumstances, and to perform our duty concerning them.

We hope we will be in a position to perform our duty toward our kinfolk and brothers in the great homeland. That is why there is no intention to form a new force called the rapied deployment force. Our entire Army, which is supported by our family, is ready to perform the duty of defending Arab land and Arab rights. It does not perform this duty on behalf of anyone, but because it is the heir of the great Arab revolution and the protector of its banner and mission, which lives in our consciences.

Naturally, we are eager to promote our capabilities and potential for the sake of working and performing our duty in the same manner as we are eager to build our intrinsic power in the face of challenges and dangers. Therefore, we are seeking to promote our armaments, organization, and, subsequently, our ability to work as Arabs who stand on the side of their brothers in times of ordeals and difficulties with all our potential and capabilities. We have bcome used to our enemies' attempts to distort things and cast doubt on them, regardless of those enemies' form, color, and guise. This is my reply to this question. [end recording]

Regarding Jordan's role in returning Egypt to the Arab and Islamic fold, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] Regarding Egypt — and as I said in the speech from the throne — the Arab nation cannot do without Egypt and Egypt cannot do without its Arab nation. If our enemies managed, at a painful stage of our nation's life, to attain many of their aims through what has befallen Arab-Egyptian relations, which resulted in weakness and impotence to a large extent, it is our natural duty to rectify this situation. We are quite confident of the inevitable attainment of the situation under which we will join the common march as one hand and one heart. I believe it will not be too long before matters will return to the way they should be. In any case, the situation in Egypt now is not like the one which existed some time ago, and our contacts are continuing on all levels. We have great hopes that the picture will return to what is was like at one time and to how it should be. [end recording]

Replying to a question on the formula of peace to which Jordan agrees and on the future of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, his majesty said:

[Begin recording] We face negative stands toward any Arab action that has a Jordanian and Palestinian nature and objective by exerting the utmost efforts to crystallize what we believe is beneficial. The negative stands any side tries to impose on us do not frighten us or influence our march. On the contrary, such stands enhance our conviction of the soundness of our actions and the need to continue along the road leading to welfare and the triumph of justice. Of course, we always hope that the march will — if possible — be the march of the entire Arab nation without exception. However, we begin with ourselves as Palestinians and Jordanians, and then with the majority in our Arab homeland. God willing, unanimity will subsequently be achieved so that the march will be the march of one nation heading toward its aims and goals. The difficulty of achieving unanimity does not mean we should remain idle under the mercy of our enemies who are seeking to achieve their aims.

Many formulas have been proposed, but the formula we believe should be the basis is what came in the introduction of the UN Security Council Resolution No 242 on the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war. The Jordanian-Palestinian relationship concerns the Jordanians and Palestinians. The Jordanians and Palestinians are dutybound to crystallize this relationshp in an ideal manner. In fact, at this stage, we are not thinking about any of the proposed initiatives. Naturally, we are committed to the Fes summit resolution. I had the honor of visiting the capitals of the five UN Security Council permanent member states to submit and defend this initiative with an accompanying Arab delegation.

We are looking to the future. We basically seek to organize ourselves and, consequently, move to another stage and consider what is being proposed and what is possible. When I say possible, this means that it must not ignore what I have mentioned: that the occupied territories must return to their kinfolk and owners. Our stand in Jordan has been firm from the beginning. We helped in drafting Security Council Resolution No 242 with Egypt at that time. Our stand did not change. We cannot compromise I inch of Palestinian land or an iota of Palestinian rights. Right and land are in return for peace. This was our course and this is our approach.

However, our stand is known regarding Camp David, but Camp David is also based on Security Council Resolution No 242 and possibly on the Fes plan, and in addition to the U.S. President's initiative and many other initiatives from the West and East. The basic objective is to regain the land and save right and kinfolk. When we Jordanians and Palestinians work as one rank and one hand, then we can deal with all that is being proposed and improve the prospects of reaching our objectives and ends. [end recording]

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war and the possibility of stopping it, His majesty King Husayn stressed Jordan's support for Iraq as part of the duty necessitated by Jordan's affiliation to its Arab nation. His majesty said:

[Begin recording] We stand at Iraq's side and support it with all our capabilities and potential. Iraq stood at the Arab nation's side in all its battles and confrontations. We stand at Iraq's side because it has a just cause. We stand at Iraq's side as an Arab League member and as a state that signed the collective Arab defense pact. If the issue is a border issue, then there is historical evidence and known facts that can enable the two sides to end this war, if there is a real desire, and reach a satisfactory formula through negotiations. Iraq has adopted a positive stand toward all initiatives in this regard.

Iraq is now defending its land as well as its nation. The solution has two sides. Through negotiations border problems can be settled on the basis of a just solution that is based on what is known of inalienable rights. The other side of the problem is that after ending this war, in which the two sides sustained heavy losses in life and equipment — a war whose continuation would threaten the entire region regarding stability and the possibilities of danger — the future relations between Iran and its neighbors — Iran and Iraq on the one hand and Iran and its Arab neighbors on the other — must be based on mutual respect and non-interference in each other's domestic affairs. This is the right method. However, if the objective of this war is to continue this aggression against this nation in an attempt to fragment and weaken it, then, praise be to God, Iraq is firm and strong — people and Army.

Iraq is not only defending its land, but it is also defending the Arab nation. I believe Iraq will maintain its steadfastness and firmness. We will support Iraq with all our capabilities and potential out of our duty to do so. However, we have great hope that the situation will change as soon as possible. It is in the interest of all sides that the fighting end in order to move to the stage where negotiations can take place to settle the problem and to prevent its repetition in the future on the bases that I have pointed out. [end recording]

Regarding President Ronald Reagan's plan on peace in the Middle East and the Fes summit resolutions, and the Arabs' viewpoint on each of them, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] At any rate, during the stage that followed the Fes meeting and the decisions that were made there, we exerted great efforts for a long period of time to crystallize the stand in its current formula. This coincided with the U.S. President's plan. This plan included positive points. These points represented our course during the period that followed this plan. We have worked to remove the contradictions and disparities, if they exist, between the two formulas. We made good progress at that time. Later, there were circumstances that did not allow us to continue our attempt to search for what could be achieved. All this took place in the past.

Regarding the future, I do not know. Once again, I say that the basic thing is that as Palestinians and Jordanians we must organize outselves and, consequently, reconsider what has been proposed and what can be proposed. The objective is to save the land, kinfolk, and right, and achieve the just and honorable peace that we aspire to. [end recording]

Regarding the terrorist attempts against our ambassadors abroad and the sides behind these attempts, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] These attempts that took the lives of a number of Jordanian citizens and wounded other citizens are cowardly attempts. I cannot find any expression to describe them. They are evil and disgraceful attempts by those who carried them out and those who planned them. However, this country, with all its citizens, has always been waging the battles of its nation. All of us are soldiers, and, consequently, we have to accept what takes place when such battles are imposed on us. This has been our Jordanian family's reaction toward such battles.

There are many measures, and, of course, we will not accept the continuation of such incidents. I cannot elaborate on this issue. We are disturbed by these methods that some people adopt. We do not know their aims. However, they harm the Arab citizen and his image in this world. Regarding these terrorist actions, the sides that practice terrorism are responsible for these actions. The commands of these sides are located in a fraternal Arab country. [end recording]

Regarding reports on whether his majesty invited Eyptian President Husni Mubarak to visit Jordan, King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] Regarding the possibility of President Husni Mubarak's visit, I extended an invitation when I met with him during the nonaligned conference in New Delhi. The invitation is open when his circumstances permit and we warmly welcome him and any other Arab brother who visits our country. [end recording]

Concerning the bases on which the forthcoming Jordanian-Palestinian talks are to be held, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] Concerning the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, I can say that they are, of course, continuing. They will not be a continuation of the previous talks and will not deal with any initiative by any side in this world. They will focus on crystallizing the best formula for Jordanian-Palestinian relations in the future.

Regarding the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, we might hold contacts with our Arab brothers in the Arab homeland during certain stages, and if God grants us success in crystallizing the formulas that we hope for, we will inform them of what we reach. But concerning our direct relationship, I believe there is no opportunity for any other side to be a partner in these talks during the stages I have already mentioned. However, we will hold contacts with our brothers in the Arab homeland, including Egypt. [end recording]

Concerning the possibility of any change in the current formula for holding parliamentary elections in Jordan, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] In light of the circumstances and according to our belief, the formula that we have chosen is the best one, because as I mentioned before in light of the occupation of the occupied land, our circumstances do not allow us to act freely. Therefore, Parliament was reconvened to assume its responsibilities. This step was taken to enable the representatives of the people to exercise — and they have really exercised — their right to elect those who will represent our kinfolk and brothers concerning the vacant seats in the West Bank. This will also take place here. Once again, the whole process in aimed at achieving a balance in relations. This constitutes the best possibility under the current circumstances. [end recording]

Regarding the European role in bringing about peace in the Middle East and whether that role can be an alternative to the U.S. role, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] The European effort is an effective one. In principle, I believe that the battle we are waging in defense of our right against some enemies is a battle on an international level. Continued dialogue and action should engulf the whole world, and we should not give our enemies any opportunities. We also should face up to our responsibilities if we really believe in the justice of our issue. And if we really believe, we should also defend our right on all occasions and in every arena. All of us are concerned about encouraging Europe to assume a responsible role because it is close to this part of the world and it also knows our problems more than others do. Therefore, it has a positive effect with regard to its positions and its ability to convince others. The dialogue is continuing and its results are positive and good. [end recording]

Regarding Jordan's move to bring about peace in the Middle East and its effort to balance its position with that of the Palestinians, taking into consideration Israeli intransigence and the absence of any change in the U.S. position, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] The reality you have just referred to might be the main cause of our move in this period. If we do not adopt any option, the image will not improve in this world and it might worsen. If we move as Jordanians, Palestinians, and Arabs, we will impose our respect on others. This is my answer to the dark image to which I have referred to in this world. We will certainly succeed and we will do our best to achieve that. [end recording]

At the end of the press conference, His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] In order to put you in the picture and to avoid any misinterpretation, I reassure you that, thank God, I enjoy good health. At the same time, I express my deep gratitutde to the kinfolk and brothers in our homeland, the Arab homeland, and everywhere for their concern about my health during the past period. The physicians believe that I should leave for a specialized center in the coming days for a checkup. I want to put you in the picture so that no stories will be made up about it.

Regarding our meetings, I hope they will be repeated because I feel happy when I meet you and when we discuss our issues in frankness and clarity. Thank you. [end recording]

Foreign Media Representatives

JN282246 Amman Television Service in English 2015 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Press conference given by King Husayn for foreign news media correspondents in Amman on 28 January — videorecorded]

[Text] [King Husayn] Ladies and gentlemen, I would most sincerely like to welcome you to Jordan and express my feelings of pleasure to have this opportunity to meet with you all. I apologize that it was impossible for me to do so earlier. I understand that there are a number of questions that you would care to pose and I'll be more than happy to try to answer them in a spirit of frankness and out of the realization that it is a duty to give you all the facts so that you are able to convey them accurately. Thank you so much, and for you who are with us from outside Jordan, I hope that you are confortable with us here and that you feel at home and amongst your friends. I welcome you once again and I am ready to answer any question. Please.

[Unidentified reporter] West German television reporter. Your Majesty, the chancellor of West Germany, Mr Kohl, just finished today his visit to Israel. What are your comments on the outcome of this visit from a Jordanian as well as from an Arabian viewpoint?

[Husayn] We had the privilege and pleasure of welcoming the chancellor in Jordan a while ago on a most constructive visit that he undertook to this country, which gave me and the Jordanians the chance to acquaint him with the problems of this part of the world, with the challenges we face, and also to have a chance to discuss our bilateral relations. I had met him shortly after he took office in Bonn, and I have no comments really in regard to his recent visit to Israel. I haven't been able to assess all the results and, in any event, it is a matter that is outside my immediate concern. I feel it is not my right to comment on that. Thank you very much.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] concerning the European Community in the future negotiations concerning the Middle East?

[Husayn] I do not know what negotiations we are talking about. But if it is the question of the efforts of all for the establishment of a just and durable peace in this area, then I do believe that Europe can play a very important role and this happens to come naturally because Europe is close to this area and there is a [word indistinct] understanding of its problems. The impact of these problems affects Europe as it does affect this area in general. And I believe that this growing dialogue with our friends in Europe helps us to see the future and to define the best ways to achieve our common objectives. And Europe also has a role in acquainting others in this world of its views as to the best courses that could be followed for the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area and its stability, which will be to the benefit of the world. Thank you.

[Unidentified reporter] ABC news. Have you any word from the U.S. Government that Israel will go along — that is, not oppose — the increase in military aid to $220 million to Jordan?

[Husayn] No, I have not had any word on that. And we will have to watch and see what happens.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think that Israel will strongly oppose that increase in aid?

[Husayn] I really cannot tell at the moment. But Israel has definitely opposed in the past all our attempts to continue the relationship with our traditional friends and the supply of our legitimate self-defense needs. And this has been the cause for us to move elsewhere to try to diversify sources of equipment to our Armed Forces in the past, not out of any desire on our side, but because of the obstacles that were created, mainly by Israel's influence in the United States. I do not know whether this will be repeated this time or not.

[Unidentified reporter] How bad did you need that aid?

[Husayn] First of all, let me elaborate on this subject because you are obviously referring to what has been described as (?espousing) a new capability for Jordan to act in the area. I would like to make it very very clear that Jordan, throughout its history, has acted for better stability in this entire area to defend the Arab identity and freedom. When we expect others to help us when we are in difficulty, obviously we have to be willing to do the same for them — stability and strength in the area, stability as far as Jordan is concerned as well.

The Jordanian Armed Forces have been trained and have always held the belief that their duties are not limited to Jordan itself, but to the entire area. Each member of our Armed Forces proudly wears on his head a badge that carries the Arab army on it, signifying the fact that this Army was born of the army of the Arab revolt. We have acted throughout our history to support our brethern whenever they needed help. Examples are when Jordanian forces were dispatched to Kuwait and then Jordanian forces were dispatched to Oman and fought there for a stable country and a free one. There were many other cases when our help was needed and we were ready to respond to those needs. And over the years, in regard to our brethern in the Gulf, thousands of Jordanians have been dispatched to train, help in any way they could our brethern there. And we have received also in our military establishments similar numbers from that entire area. So there is a cooperation of which we are proud and there is a sense of trust and confidence.

So, if there is a crisis, if there is a problem and we are requested to help, we will help without any hesitation with whatever is available to us. If it is a feeling that is born out of realities we need to enhance our capabilities in many areas and we seek to do so as best as we can.

If such help is forthcoming, it would be welcomed. If it is not, it does not alter the fact in terms of our duty to help our brethern wherever and whenever they need help. So this is the situation as it stands now.

[Unidentified reporter] The American Government is referring to this $220 million worth of aid as an attempt to set up what is being specifically called a rapid deployment force for the Middle East using 8,000 Jordanian troops. Do you agree to calling this aid the establishment of such a force, and if they do establish this specific force, what would you see its specific role as being?

[Husayn] I can tell you the facts: There are no plans to form or build a force that would carry that name. Depending on the need and the circumstance, any or the majority or all of the Armed Forces of my country would be ready to help in a crisis situation. Obviously, to help effectively we need to increase our ability to do so through some modern equipment and methods of conveyance of troops and equipment, but enhancing this capability through all the means available to us, including the possibility of assistance from the United States, is something we are carrying out. If the situation ever arises where we are needed and we are requested to help our brethren, we will respond, not on behalf of any in this world, but as a continuation of our policy and our conviction that we are a part of this world and that its stability and security is vital to us.

[Unidentified reporter] It was mentioned in the past the need to involve the Soviet Union in a settlement of the Middle East problem. How would you envisage this given the strong American hostility to this idea?

[Husayn] Well, say in principle I believe that all who wish to contribute or are able to contribute to the establishment of a just and durable peace in this area will be given the chance to do so. But let me refer to our own priorities now and I would like to put across to our friends that the recent developments, actions that had been taken here are our topmost priority — the establishment of a dialogue that will lead, hopefully, to the creation of a concept which would be satisfying and satisfactory to every Jordanian and every Palestinian for all times to come in terms of the creation of a balanced relationship between members of one family immediately affected and threatened and concerned with the challenge that we jointly face. So, while doing so, we are concentrating and trying to put our act together, our reltions on the best possible basis of trust and confidence. We believe that this is a must; this is a foundation from which we can move to look at any and all options and alternatives and ways; first, to positively influence events within our Arab world and to gain support for what we think is in the best interest of our cause; and secondly, to look at the world and to see what we can do in any field and in any area and to look at what is possible, or otherwise elsewhere.

In the past we were unable to move and we were to a degree paralyzed in terms of the lack of this kind of foundation that is vital and in terms of the problems that are becoming more and more apparent within the Arab world itself, where any movement has to be achieved through consensus. We feel that they feel it ahead also and stemming from our hopefully successful attempts to coordinate and to organize ourselves as Palestinians and jordanians. [sentence as heard] There will also be a period of consultation with our brethren in the Arab world so that, for the first time, maybe we can take the initiative and we can look at all options and we can act, as opposed to reacting or being unable to do so either in the face of events that change all the time. We hope that the Arab world will be able to regain its credibility and have its impact on the rest of the world. We hope that the majority can formulate policy and that we can face up to the challenges and our responsibilities towards future generations adequately. So the two priorities are to get and give our maximal effort to organizing our relations as members of one family — Palestinians and Jordanians alike — and then to look at the Arab world and then to look at what is possible within this one.

[Unidentified reporter] What role would you see for the Soviet Union, then, in the wider context of an agreement for the Middle East? As you have said, it needs to be involved at some stage. How and when?

[Husayn] As far as I am concerned, the Soviet Union is in this area, has interests in this area, has made it completely clear that if it is not involved in any process leading to the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area, it will certainly make its presence felt. And that has been a fact in the past. So these are the realities that I can't run away from, and at the same time I've tried to convey to others in this world all along.

[Unidentified reporter][Words indistinct] talking about involving the Soviet Union in the area. That would mean also involving its ally in the area. What would be your future relations with Syria, and how do you evaluate those relations for the time being, especially after the latest events and developments in Jordan?

[Husayn] The Soviet Union is a member of the Security Council of the United Nations. The Soviet Union was involved with the formulation and adoption of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which are the foundations of all initiatives for the establishment of a just and durable peace in this area. That is a fact. On the other hand, in terms of our relations with Syria, they are not as good as we would have wished them to be. And this is born of differences over issues. For example, the treatment of the Lebanese problem. We supported Syria when it intervened in Lebanon. Initially, our concept of that intervention was that it was aimed at holding the bloodshed and creating the atmosphere for the Lebanese-Lebanese dialogue and the Lebanese-Palestinian dialogue and for a solution to the problems that would have averted all the disasters that have beset that country and which are, from an Arab perspective, a national disaster.

Another area of our difference has been the Syrian attitude towards the Iraq-Iran war — an unfortunate war that has cost much in terms of human losses and material losses, and which is a threat to the stability of the area. Well, we have been at variance with Syrian in terms of our policies. We have supported Iraq as members of the Arab League, as signatories to the joint defense agreement, as a people who believe that Iraq has a just cause. The problem there could have been resolved at any time if there was good will and there was a desire to resolve it as a moral problem. There are enough historic facts that would help any to achieve a solution on the negotiating table and around it.

The other aspect of the problem is obviously the fact that relations in the future ought to be based between Iran and her other neighbors in the area, Iraq included, on mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of others. Yet, on the one hand, we have Iraq that has responded positively to every initiative and every effort for a cessation of these hostilities and a solution to the problem, and we have Iran that has continued to wage war and to threaten the area.

If Iran's policies are to divide this area and create further tragedies and weaknesses to the Arab world as a whole — as appears to be the case and objective — then Iraq is fighting on our behalf as an Arab nation in defending itself and defending the identity of the Arabs and the unity of our people. So this is another area of difference between us and Syria.

Certainly, the recent one is Syria's attempt to try to destroy the PLO as a free representative of the people of Palestine and to create in its place an instrument that would be subservient to its wishes and policies. We believe that the PLO is the legitimate representative of the people of Palestine and that its sole reason for existence must be to secure the freedom of the people and the liberation of the people in the land under occupation since 1967. And obviously its strength should be derived from its constituency, which is a Palestinian one, and from no other source in terms of the hopes and aspirations of the people of Palestine and the realities they face. This is another area of difference with Syria, and beyond that, obviously, the idea that this area should be polarized between the two superpowers.

I think what is at stake then is fairly obvious; it is our identity as a people, our freedom, and our future and that of the generations to come. We are for the best possible relations with all in this world, but certainly against polarization, which seems to be the policy of some within the Arab world as well as Israel in all her attempts in the recent years. This is a very dangerous situation that would not affect the future of this area, but the world as a whole. So, these are differences that appear at the moment to be irreconcilable, and therefore relations are not as good as they could have been. Maybe in time they will improve and change on the basis of solutions to these problems.

[Unidentified reporter] With Jordan facing the prospect very soon of a new dialogue with the PLO, is it necessary to bring Syria into the process at this stage?

[Husayn] Syria is a country that has accepted Security Council Resolution 338, which is, in effect, Security Council Resolution 242. Syria has occupied territories. I cannot speak on Syria's behalf, but I can say that hopefully in the future the attempts that may be made would focus on achieving a comprehensive solution to the problem for the establishment of a just and durable peace in the entire area.

[Qu'war] Samirah Qu'war of UPI. Your Majesty, if Jordan and the PLO do succeed in formulating a joint political stand and getting their act together, then is there any truth in the reports that Egypt will then join them to formulate a new Arab peace initiative?

[Husayn] I believe that all this is premature, really. What we are looking at is the problems as we see them and our sense of responsibility towards our brethren and people in the occupied territories, the threats that afflict both Palestinians and Jordanians alike, our duty towards people, towards their future. Therefore, we are concentrating mainly on Jordanian- Palestinian relations at this stage. This would be the nucleus from which we can look at any options. Hopefully, and obviously, we will work together with our brothers and with the world in the best possible way to serve our cause.

[Unidentified reporter] *TIME* magazine. You mentioned earlier establishing a balanced relationship with the Palestinians and then you also referred to the PLO as a legitimate representative of the Palestinians, but I believe the Rabat 1974 [summit] said the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. Which do you believe the PLO to be?

[Husayn] Both, but let me fill you in on the background. I may take a little of your time and give you specifically an answer, but it may be a question that should be addressed by all of us at this time.

In 1950, when the two banks of Jordan came together at the first meeting of the Jordanian Parliament, a motion was taken to indicate categorically that this relationship did not affect in any way the final outcome of the solution to the Palestinian problem and the rights of Palestinians. At Rabat, the decision was adopted after long debate that the PLO was the sole legitimate representative of the people of Palestine. The Rabat decision did not address domestic affairs as far as Jordan was concerned. These are affairs that concern our sovereignty. These are affairs that concern an oath that all of us have taken — I and every Jordanian official so obvious — to defend the Constitution and uphold it. A very vital part of constitutional life is parliamentary life. We took a decision in 1974 for a period of time and in an attempt to enhance the PLO's capabilities to make their impact in the world, to live without a parliamentary life. It has been a very difficult period and the responsibilities have been immense on our shoulders throughout this period.

At the same time we acted, the PLO was fully aware of our decision to reconvene Parliament, of the fact that we had come to a point where we were facing a very serious crisis. If Parliament were not held the passage of time had [words indistinct] the presence of many members of the Jordanian Parliament and the time was comimg when it would have been impossible to reconvene Parliament with a quorum and enable it to amend the Constitution to enable us to continue parliamentary life here. A serious constitutional crisis was almost upon us. I made some hints over the last few months that we were moving in that direction. It was not announced in advance specifically to enable us to have the Jordanian parliamentarians come over from the occupied territories over a period of time for the meeting to be held. As it happened, only one member was held back and was not permitted to attend the meeting.

The Constitution has been amended, parliamentary life has been resumed, representatives of the people were able to appoint, elect members to represent the vacant chairs from the West Bank. Elections will be held here in the East Bank to fill the vacancies and we feel really happy that a very vital part of our lives has been restored in terms of the sharing of responsibilities in the face of all challenges. There was never any contradiction between us and the PLO in 1974 at Rabat since the Palestinian problem does not concern the West Bank alone. As it happens, even in the early 1950's, when both banks came together, the concept was of a balanced relationship between East Bank and West Bank, between Jordan and Palestine in terms of the numbers of representatives from both banks, and Parliament and the Senate, and this is what we have been talking about with the PLO in recent months as well.

We are directly before a challenge that afflicts us before any in the area. We will not relinquish our responsibilities towards our brothers in the occupied territories. And, hopefully we will be able to evolve a concept that will be satisfying to every Jordanian and every Palestinian. Both are attached to their identities within the concept of one family. And other factors: We were deeply distressed in the recent past to see developments. For example, on the Israeli side the plans to reallocate people into the Jordan valley, possibly a first obvious step twoards attempting to expel them from their land. In another area, there are the attempts to possibly have the occupied territories subject to Israeli land laws, which is tantamount of annexation of that Area. This is in addition to what Israel has been trying to suggest all along that the Palestinian problem is a problem of a people not of land, and that [the solution of] the problem of this people could be found elsewhere.

I believe that our actions helped put the record straight. The Palestinians have their land and have their rights, and these rights must be secured if peace is to be established in this area. And the Jordanians have their land and their rights as well. And the East Bank is the East Bank and the West Bank is the West Bank. Palestine is Palestine and Jordan is Jordan. But we are members of one family as well. So these are some of the dimensions that I thought I might touch upon and explain what has happened so far.

[Unidentified reporter] You mentioned time as being important. And recently you said that time is running out. Is there anything specific you can tell us about what is holding up a meeting between youself and President Mubarak and Chairman 'Arafat? A lot of people had thought it would happen a week or two ago. Now it looks like it might be 2, or 3, or 4 weeks from now. Can you pin that down for us?

[Husayn] Sir, contacts are continuing between us and have been. And as far as President Mubarak is concerned and our relations with Egypt at the level of myself and the president and the two governments, these relations are developing and evolving in a very satisfactory manner, and consultations are taking place on matters as we progressed. And when I met him last in India at the nonaligned summit, I expressed our hope that he would be visiting our country at some time whenever he was able to do so. I hope that further meetings will occur in the future. I believe basically that Egypt needs us in the Arab world, its Arab family, and the Arab world needs Egypt. And, inevitably, we are going to come together.

As for Chairman 'Arafat, he has had a plan of a visit, and hopefully he will be coming to see us some time soon. There has been a lot of (?damage). My medical condition has caused me to be indisposed for a period, and at the same time has caused my doctors to suggest that I need to leave in the immediate future to a medical institute to have some specialized tests to complete the picture of their treatment of my case. So I will be going away for a little while in a few days. And maybe this is the opportunity to tell you that so that it is not misinterpreted in any formal way. And so the meeting with Chairman 'Arafat is scheduled to take place after that.

[Khuri] Rami Khuri, *WASHINGTON POST/FINANCIAL TIMES*. Could you give us a little bit of an idea of what you anticpate to be the future of political developments within Jordan in terms of the steps that could take place following the restoration of parliamentary life, not only in terms of possible political parties, but in terms of the reactivation of all aspects of society: hyphenationuniversities, the press, youth clubs, institutions that have tended to gravitate towards political motives in the absence of parliamentary life? How do you see the future developing in terms of political life now?

[Husayn] Parliamentary life is a vital foundation as far as Jordan is concerned and a vital part of our life. It has been for many years. Now once again it takes place in our lives. It is the sharing of people in formulating the policies of this country and striving to attain the objectives and hopes of its people.

As for Jordan, I really hope that every area of our society and life would be more active and more determined to achieve our goals of making of our examples a good example to others, and to prepare ourselves in the best possible way to face the challenges before us. Our greatest asset in this country has always been and will always be the human element. And we hope to see conditions where the individual and the society, the people, are prepared and are partaking in their responsibilities for a better future for generations to come.

[*NEW YORK TIMES* correspondent; name indistinct] I have two question for you. One: As part of American assistance to enable Jordan to respond to crises in the area, do you envisage the stationing of American forces here in Jordan? And two: In the absence of a political solution in Lebanon, do you believe that the United States should withdraw the Marines?

[Husayn] No, I have never envisaged at any point in the past the stationing of American troops in Jordan. On the other hand, what we are proud of and had been throughout the life of this country is that we know what our duties are towards ourselves and towards others in the area. We are fully prepared and ready at all times to do what we can not only to defend ourselves — that is our commitment and a challenge we face — but also to help others in terms of security and stability and peace and progress in the entire area. So we have no shortage of willingness as a people to carry out our tasks in the best possible way and will do that time and again. And the area that is obviously an area of constant concern for us is to meet our legitimate requirements to enhance and to enable us to do so. [sentence as heard] That is what we need, not any phisycal help in terms of that part.

On the other hand, as far as the Lebanese crisis is concerned, I would like to say that it is imperative that all efforts be made to recover the situation that is almost containable. And I think that this could be done once again if the objectives were outlined clearly. At the end of 1982, the forecasts were the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and the establishment of Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanese territory: safeguarding Lebanon's independence; striving to achieve national unity there. Unfortunately, things did not work that way, and as a result, Lebanon is still occupied by two belligerents supported as it seems by two superpowers at a time when these two superpowers are not enjoying the best possible relations that they could normally have which is causing tension in the world as a whole. The Lebanese themselves appear to be unable to move in the direction of resolving their problems, and therefore, the serious situation is existing there. I believe that this serious situation is developing to the point where the country is almost divided, and where it seems to be the objective from time to time to secure a cease-fire within a country between warring factions. This is a disaster in the fullest meaning of the word, and somehow this has got to be at rest. So those who are involved must redefine their objectives, in my opinion, and must ensure that all foreign forces vacate that country without conditions.

And that the continued presence of elements trying to secure peace in that country is linked at the same time to the attainment of that objective as well as to the Lebanese being able to sit together and resolve their own problems past, present, and future [word indistinct]. And I hope that this would be the direction to resolve this problem. I cannot see any other way.

[Unidentified reporter from *LE MONDE]* Your Majesty, last April you nearly reached an agreement with Yasir 'Arafat at the end of long and difficult talks, and Yasir 'Arafat did not come back to sign this agreement. In the coming discussion are you coming back to square one or are you going to take as a base what was agreed upon in April?

[Husayn] There are two things we are speaking about [words indistinct] in terms of the relations between Palestinians and Jordanians. We are going to build on what we started to discuss, hopefully achieve success in that. As for any particulary course that we might follow politically in the future, we are putting what I mentioned as a top priority and then we can look at what is available in this world and what possibilities there are and how we can serve our cause best. So, to begin with, the main area of our effort is securing the best possible concept, future cooperation, relations between Palestinians and Jordanians within the concept of one family facing common threats and consolidating this relationship in a meaningful way and in an effective way. This objective as it is, and from then we will look forward not backwards.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] several times pointed out that it was the Israelis who rejected the plan. And you have further listed two preconditions to Jordan getting involved; namely an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and freezing the settlements on the West Bank. My question is whether, at the time the plan was announced, the United States made any commitment to you to see that the Israelis met those preconditions. And now are you in any sense disappointed with American action regarding the Reagan plan, particularly in regard to those preconditions?

[Husayn] There were several reasons why the plan did not succeed. On our side we tried our very best to remove the differences between the Fes Arab plan and the Reagan plan. But as for Lebanon, for example, and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, if you would recall official statements from Washington you will find that the prediction was that the withdrawal would occur before the end of 1982. And the plan, as it came out, was to deal with the root cause of instability in this entire area; that is the Israeli issue and not the Lebanese issue. While, at the same time, all attempts were being made to secure the withdrawal from Lebanon by all forces. But on the Israeli side, there was an outright rejection of the plan, and a lot of action which was to intensify the settlements activities in the occupied territories.

I believe that on our side, had we been able as Jordanians and the PLO to say that we were ready to be involved with the peace process suggested then on the basis of Security Council Resolution 242 somewhere in the beginning of 1983, we would have received a final timetable for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. And obviously, if we were moving towards a solution, then Washington would have done its utmost and would have achieved — as far as we could tell — a cessation of settlement activities in the occupied territories. You see, each settlement that has been created, all these activities, have in fact been acts contrary to international law and the Geneva convention. These have been acts to create obstacles to peace, obstacles in the path of peace. And it was fairly obvious that a continuation of these policies would get us further and further away from the objective of establishing a just and durable peace in the area. This is the situation as it was and there were other factors as well that probably caused the plan not to move to the point where it is [words indistinct] understand.

[Unidentified reporter] Was America in any sense responsible for the fact that the plan has not worked so far? In other words, would you like to see greater pressure by Washington on the Israelis?

[Husayn] Of course we would like to see greater pressure by Washington on the Israelis in their own interest and analysis. But I believe that Israel is primarily responsible and there are other reasons; if you would care I would go over them again — Israeli rejectionof the plan; Israeli settlement activities; lack of progress in the area of withdrawal from Lebanon; unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon by all forces within that country; at the time, the position that there would be no dialogue with the PLO; in addition to the exclusion of the Soviet Union from the peace process in terms of the Soviets are in fact in the area and if they were excluded... These are some of the factors that affected the initiative in terms of the fact that it did not get off the ground as it should have.

[Qu'war] *JORDAN TIMES* reporter. Your Majesty, one of the problems involved in not getting the peace process off the ground is U.S. and Israeli refusal to talk to the PLO. Do you see any merit in the French-Egyptian initiative of 1982, which calls for mutual recognition between the Arab side and Israel, between Israel and the PLO, actually?

[Husayn] I believe that we are looking at the whole possibilities, but as far as we are concerned here in Jordan, we believe that it is very vital to maintain the two Security Council resolutions that have been really the foundation for every attempt and every initiative taken so far, and not to act in a way that will be detrimental to them. Any improvement is obviously welcome. I am referring to Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

[Mansur] Khadir Mansur, *JERUSALEM STAR* reporter. Your Majesty, according to the Israelis, the city of Jerusalem should and will remain the capital of Israel forever. Would the Arabs, specifically Jordan — bearing in mind, Your Majesty, that Jordan was the only Arab country in 1950 which flatly and strongly condemned this draft-resolution...; of course, Jerusalem is dear to His Majesty the King, to all Arabs, to all... I mean peoples who have genuine faith in God. And we want your comment on that, Your Majesty, and thank you.

[Husayn] Our position has been very consistent on this issue since 1967, when we helped in the formulation of the Security Council Resolution 242. The preamble is clear: the inadmissability of acquisition of territory by war. And, as far as we are concerned, the formula for peace is very clear: total withdrawal from all occupied territories in return for total peace. And, obviously, addressing one aspect of the problem in terms of Palestinian rights as well. And, we are not deviated from that. We made it very very clear we would not bargain over an inch of Palestinian rights, in terms of territories or rights. And as far as Jerusalem, Jerusalem is a city that is important to all followers of the three monotheistic religions. In a context of peace, the rights of all must be preserved. But as far as territory occupied in June of '67, it must return to Arab sovereignty, obviously. This is our position, and let us not get into a lot of details since this is an area that I have covered time and agains and our position has not changed. That might be the best answer.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, another question about what you don't like to call the strike force, but Jordan's ability to respond to crises in the area: Israel opposed the American assistance to this effort in the past because it argued that the weapons and money supplied to aid Jordan in its efforts would one day be turned against Israel. Can you give any guarantees now about how this American assistance would be used? Would these weapons and would Jordanian forces be turned against Israel? And, secondly, could you be a bit more specific about the kind of crises that you think Jordan might have to respond to? For example, would Jordan take a more aggressive role in the Iranian-Iraq war?

[Husayn] As far as the Iran-Iraq war is concerned, we are doing all we can and we have done all we could. And, unfortunately, it is nowhere near as much as we has wished (?to do). But the Iraqis are holding their own with support from their Arab brothers, those who have offered support to Iraq.

As far as the Israeli attitude, I wish we were in a position of influence to have influenced events in the United States in a minor way in comparison with the way the Israelis seem to be able to do so. I believe that if you are looking at your own interests, national interests, your interests as a superpower, you would realize that those interests would clearly be in establishing good relations with all in this area, with many of your friends who share with you the same beliefs, uphold the same ideals, and fight for the same principles. I found it ironic that we should argue over possible limited American assistance to Jordan when you know full well that Israeli military might is such that it could challenge the entire Arab world, and that this is born of American help to Israel and support with the latest technology and without limits. In point of fact, even the question of settlements is one where it is fully clear, unfortunately, that these settlements are built through American contributions.

As far as we are concerned, these weapons are Jordanian when they arrive in Jordanian hands, as is the case with weapons arriving from any quarter. We will use them for our liegitimate self-defense and to honor our obligations towards others in the area.

I can see a possibility of Jordan being involved in the area only and if others request us to come to their assistance, as has been the case in the past. If we do so, we will do so as Jordanians, not on behalf of the United States and not on behalf of any other power in this world. We will be consistent with our policies that have been proven time and again in this particular regard. We would help whether we received U.S. assistance or we didn't.

But then there is the question whether our help is adequate [words indistinct]. Obviously, this is something that I cannot determine now. We need help. The United States used to be a traditional source of supply for arms to Jordan. I believe our record has been a commendable one in terms of guarding these weapons and this equipment and using them adequqtely whenever there was a need. I do not believe that there were as many instances, for example, when the U.S. Government had to take action against us for using the weapons in a manner that was outside our understanding of what they should be used for, as has been the case with Israel. This has happened far too often that (?our record) is far better in that particular area. Should Israel attack us, then obviously we will use everything we have to defend ourselves. But our hope is and will be that the whole situation could be saved before it reaches the point of no return through the United States' active role in helping all in the area achieve a just and durable peace based on justice. We have been committed to the cause of a just and durable peace throughout. Hopefully, we will be justified [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] By going to the United States for medical reasons, it would seem an opportune time to go for other reasons. So would you while you are there envisage talks with American officials, American Government leaders there?

[Husayn] Sir, I am going specifically for medical reasons and the group accompanying me is nonpolitical. Yet, at the same time, the opportunity may arise when I might meet with some of our friends there, yes. I cannot give you any specifics at this timebecause I am not aware exactly how things will go.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, several months ago when the Israeli prime minister was in Washington, there was announcement of a series of agreements between the United States and Israel, which was interpreted in the Arab world as an enhancement of the strategic cooperation trend between the United States and Israel. The Americans were very strong to refute this view and they kept insisting that this is not a strategic cooperation but an ongoing part of the long American-Israeli relationship. You reacted strongly. I think you used the words saying you are very distressed by the news. Just this week the Amercians and the Israelis have started their talks about aspects of cooperationin the Middle East. Have you had any indication in the last 2 months, 3 months since this has happened until the talks started this week, have you had any indication that would cause you to change your initial reaction or either to become more distressed or less distressed by the American-Israeli trend?

[Husayn] Let me answer this question by saying that one is distressed when actions have an impact which drives this area towards polarization. And I can tell you what I've told our American friends time and again: It's not important for me to receive explanations, but when something hits the public domain, well, it is important that if it is wrong, if it is inaccurate, that this we check and rectify. Otherwise, the impact is negative. We'll be watching what happens in the future, obviously with great interest.

[Unidentified reporter] What specifically would you like to see the American Government do, or what coluld they do, to assist achievement of peace in this area? And another thing connected with that: There have been several attacks on Jordanian diplomats in Europe in particular. It's been suggested this, too, was related to your attempt to achieve a settlement here. Do you believe that is the casse, and are you worried about future threats on either your country or its representatives abroad?

[Husayn] The United States could do a lot for the establishment of a just and durable peace in this area. It has an impact on what happens in this area by virtue of its relations with many in this area, and in particular with Israel. I believe that the more the United States moves towards a more balanced relationship, the greater the chances are for the establishment of peace in the interest of all in this area. However, I felt all along and feel very strongly now that a lot depends on us. I mention the Palestinian-Jordanian dimension and mention the Arab dimension. And when we say that others are losing credibility in this area, I believe that it's only fair to say that I feel that we have lost a lot of credibility ourselves.

This is one of the reasons why we should regain this credibility through putting our act together, through working in the Arab world to the point where we can move, where we can gain the initiative. And at the same time, I believe that we have a just cause. I believe that the American people are a fair people. I believe that they've been exposed to one side of the story for far too long. And this is a situation that could be rectified in time. But it is imperative that we do our very best to try to rectify this as soon as possible.

And as for the other question, the one related to the attempts on Jordanian diplomats and security people, which have cost us some lives and some wounded,, well, it seems that this country and its people are destined to face threats in every walk of life while defending what they believe in and standing up for what is in their opinion right and just. We abhor what has happened as we abhor this kind of approach anywhere in the world against the innocent people. And we know where these tragic events have been concocted and that, unfortunately, a state in this area — an Arab state — as probably and factually the place where these terrorist acts are planned and put into execution elsewhere. Well, this is a price we have to pay, but are doing all we can to ensure that our people have a better chance in the future wherever they be.

As to threats to Jordan, well, we have always faced them. We faced them in 1970 in ivasion; we faced them in 1980 in a concentration on our borders to the north; we faced them from Israel several times; we faced them whenever we stood up to defend the Arab identity since the 1950's and to speak our peace in saying that relations with all in this world should be balanced, but that we should not give up or jeopardize our identity and the rights of generations to come. So, threats are there and it's obviously of concern to us to a limited degree because threats do not frighten us and what we are committed to is the future, generations to come. And what we are standing to achieve at all times is the ability to live with ourselves. And so we'll have to take it as it comes.

[Unidentified reporter] The proposal for majority decision-making in the Arab League seems to be quite a revolutionary one. Do you not think its likely to polarize the Arab world more deeply than it already is?

[Husayn] [Word indistinct] cannot cause us to be in any worse situation than we are (?at this stage). It is going to find us facing difficulties even to achieve that, because it is supposed to have a consensus to even achieve this cahnge; but at the moment we seem in the main to be paralyzed. And this is something we cannot live with or cannot accept. Hopefully, our deliberations in the future will enable us to address this problem adequately.

[Unidentified reporter] Is the Arab country that has been planning and executing the assaults against Jordanian officials Syria?

[Husayn] Yes. If not directly, at least elements in Syria are certainly responsible for the terror.

[Unidentified reporter] You mentioned before [word indistinct] toward the relations between Jordan and Egypt evolving satisfactory. Obviously, there has been, at least these last months, a cooperation, a political cooperation between Egypt and Jordan. I will just mention that during the visit of Yasir 'Arafat in Cairo, President Mubarak insisted on resuming the talks. And yourself, could you give us more details about this cooperation between Egypt and Jordan at the time being, and how would you like it to evolve in the next month?

[Husayn] It has evolved in a very healthy manner so far and we hope it will continue to do so. I cannot give you all details, but we were in constant contact on all levels. Incidentally, I was asked this question at the Arab summit, at Fes, and I made it very clear to my colleagues there and then I believe in the inevitability of Egypt and its Arab family coming together, and that we did have contacts since then or before that time. So it has been an evolution over a period of time.

Ladies and gentlemen, I think that we have convered almost every problem that seems to be of interest at this time. I hope that I will have the privilege and pleassure of seeing you again. You are always welcome and always feel at home and amongst your friends here. Thank you so much for your patience.

King Husayn Receives Rumsfeld 28 Jan

JN281827 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this evening Donald Rumsfeld, the U.S. President's special envoy to the Middle East. Rumsfeld conveyed to his majesty the greetings ofPresident Ronald Reagan and his good wishes to the king for continued good health and happiness. Rumsfeld presented to his majesty the results of his mission in a number of the region's states along with the U.S. evaluation of efforts being exerted to settle the Lebanese crisis, stressing the United States' concern about achieving Lebanon's security and independence and bringing about a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Attending the meeting were Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for the Middle East, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

'Aziz Conveys Saddam Message, Leaves for Home

JN271626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace at noon today Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. 'Aziz conveyed a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with several issues of common interest as well as other Arab and regional issues. Present at the meeting were Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

Tariq 'Aziz left Amman later in the afternoon following a short visit. He was seen off by the court minister, the foreign minister, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

LEBANON

Al-Jumayyil on Security Plan, Developments

NC272137 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] During a meeting with the Editors' Association today, President Amin al-Jumayyil said: The security plan remains our concern so a political solution can be reached that would restore security to at least those areas which we can reach. President al-Jumayyil added: The solution which the state submitted regarding the [promotion] of soldiers and officers was made in response to a sincere appeal by King Fahd, who requested that we find a solution to that question, and who has undertaken to pave the way and avert any problems. We decided to find a conciliatory solution that would safeguard the dignity of the military establishment. However, we were confronted by a thoughtless onslaught against the state. We did not despair and will continue to contemplate solutions to end all problems and save the homeland. It is our duty to speed up the solution and the Lebanese reconciliation to terminate all types of military presence on our land because the Lebanese people themselves desire to assume their responsibilities.

The president's statement was made during an approximately 2-hour meeting with a delegation representing the Press Editors' Association, headed by Doyen Milhim Karam and members of the Association's board.

After a lengthy discussion among President al-Jumayyil, Doyen Karam, and the others present on press freedom and the lifting of censorship, the president said he agrees that self-censorship should replace the present censorship, that he desires freedom of the press as much as Lebanon's preservation, and that he is prepared to study any plan presented to him. He said: This is a foregone conclusion as far as I am concerned.

The meeting then turned into a debate on general affairs. Following are the full proceedings of the debate:

Regarding the security plan, the president said: You have all followed the conflicts surrounding the security plan. We have proceeded with good intentions and followed up the arrangements which would relieve the citizens' sufferings, alleviate the people's tragedies, and end the destruction and violent shelling of all areas.

We exerted all efforts to implement this plan. Whenever we undid one knot, a new one confronted us. The most recent issue was the demand for the promotion of those officers who detached themselves from the Army Command. Although the promotion of officers and soldiers, who mutinied against the state is tantamount to military heresy, we responded to a sincere appeal by His Majesty King Fahd, who requested that we find a solution to this issue and tackle it with sympathy and magnanimity.

When Minister Elie Salim was in Casablanca, His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed a new wish to him from his majesty to find a solution to this matter.

President al-Jumayyil added: Our position was delicate. It stemmed from the need to reconcile the Army's dignity and discipline with a response to an appeal by a great brother — His Majesty King Fahd — who has undertaken to pave the way and avert any problems. In the end, we decided to find a conciliatory solution that would safeguard the [military] establishment's dignity, open a window to those officers and soldiers who joined the Hammana barracks, and take the reality, security conditions, and specific facts regarding the Lebanese arena into consideration.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan proposed that solution to Saudi Ambassador Ash-Shaykh Ahmad al-Kuhaymi. The Saudi ambassador communicated it to Saudi Arabia, which considered it practical and logical. We then were surprised by a statement issued in Damascus declaring that this measure is a maneuver by the Lebanese State. The Druze societies also issued a statement stating their opposition to the security plan in its entirity. This is strange. If we respond with appeals and submit a proposal to settle certain conditions, this is considered a maneuver. If we refuse to respond, we are accused of intransigence.

The president then spoke on the government's stand regarding the security plan saying: As far as the Lebanese Government is concerned, the security plan remains one of its means for reaching a political solution that would restore security, to at least those areas that we can presently reach. It was our intention to find a comprehensive and complete solution to the questions of the kidnapped and the fighting, and to end the shelling within the framework of a clear political understanding. However, it appears that there are some who reject this by placing impossible conditions. We were told: Agree to solve the question of the officers and all difficulties would be surmounted. When we agreed, they refused and did not submit an alternative solution. We considered the solution we had prepared as satisfactory, as did Saudi Arabia. However, instead of responding to the state's proposal or debating it, a thoughtless onslaught was launched against the state, government, and Army because we had submitted that proposal. However, this does not mean we have despaired or will despair. We will continue to contemplate solutions. We extend a hand to everyone in order to find solutions to all the problems. We hope for the cooperation of sincere leaderships and of many sides. We hope that — through the mediation of Saudi Arabia, in particular — our efforts will achieve a result. We also pin our hopes on the support we receive from King Fahd, who gives Lebanon special attention and for which we thank him. We also hope to reach a specific outlook with our Syrian brothers that would meet the interests of both countries.

Asked what point relations with the Syrians has reached, the president said: We are working to improve them. We have absolutely no interest in antagonizing Syria. We are interested in reaching — in cooperation with President al-Asad — a joint understanding of the brotherly relations between the two countries. That is what Lebanon is interested in. We have always called for a special relationship with Syria even before we had assumed power, at a time when no one in certain circles dared make such a call and are still working in that direction today.

Asked about the role of the Multinational Force, the president replied: You have sensed the extent of President Reagan's determination to assist Lebanon. This has again been expressed by the U.S. President. It has become clear to all that the Lebanese regime is doing its best to save and unite the homeland

and bring all parties together. We maintain friendly and serious relations with certain National Salvation Front leaders. We hope to further develop these relations to include all of the Front's leaders. The Americans realize this. They also increasingly realize the need to stay in Lebanon and assist the Lebanese Government, especially since we have made much progress toward a solution. U.S. support for Lebanon is now stronger than before. The states participating in the Multinational Force have reaffirmed their solidarity with Lebanon. Our duty is to speed up Lebanese reconciliation and move toward a solution so as to end all forms of military presence in our land, because the Lebanese people, in the final analysis, aspire to shoulder their own responsibilities. The Lebanese citizen wants to have the honor of martyrdom for his homeland and does not want others to die for him. He also will die to safeguard Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and independence and to maintain Lebanon's relations and solidarity with the Arab community, in which he is a basic member. I hope the Arab community will help us solve our problems.

The president was also asked: What information does the government have regarding Israeli withdrawals from the south?

He replied: That issue is now being studied by a working group of the Lebanese Army and IDF within the framework of the Lebanese-Israeli Military Liaison Committee and in cooperation with a working team from the U.S. Army. We are attempting through cooperation with the Americans to create the suitable atmosphere so that any Israeli withdrawal from the south will not cause a flare-up but would safeguard Lebanese interests. Within this context, implementing the security plan and resolving the situation in the Ash-Shuf will facilitate the entry of the Lebanese Army into the south. However, any obstruction of the security plan will hamper the Army's assumption of its duties there. If we free the Army from its responsibilities in Beirut and Beirut's southern suburb, we will speed up the expansion of the state's sovereignty, particularly southward. We must all cooperate and set secondary matters aside.

Speaking further on the issue of the southern suburb, the president said: In the past I had personally assumed responsibility for the issue of the southern suburb's development. I visited the suburb to inspect its needs. We entrusted a ministerial committee to look after the suburb's affairs, and gave it absolute authority to solve matters without the need to consult anyone. This was done at my own request. The Cabinet allocated it 20 million pounds, free of any restrictions, and we then allocated 40 million pounds for the construction of a field hospital there. We also established a development force from the Lebanese Army under the supervision of Staff Brigadier General Abu Dargham. The Army has made much progress in developing the suburb. However, its residents are regrettably being used for other purposes. We had given the southern suburb special attention before the false demands and slogans were raised. The suburb is an important area that is densely populated. It urgently requires development.

The president added: We have exerted all our efforts and showed sympathy to resolve the situation. However, I regret to say that the Army has been unwillingly dragged into unnecessary battles there.

President al-Jumayyil added: We have no interest in involving the Army in citizens' affairs in either the southern suburb or any other area. Our interest lies in the southern suburb regaining its stability and peace and in the Security Forces reassuming their full role after the dissapearance of the gunmen. This is in the interest of the suburb's residents themselves. Furthermore, the suburb is preoccupying the Army today, and is delaying its movement to the south and the fulfillment of its basic duties there. The security plan will resolve the issue of the suburb, while its obstruction will preoccupy the Army with secondary tasks. The security plan will allow the Army to move into the south. We want the Army to return to its barracks and develop its training, equipment, and fighting capability so it can assume its national rather than its security tasks.

The president of the Republic was asked: The economic situation has now acqired two interpretations. Some say the economy has collapsed and that it augurs a calamity. Others say it is still cohesive in spite of Lebanon's ordeal. What do you say, Your Excellency Mr President?

President al-Jumayyil answered: The economic situation runs parallel to the political and security situation. For instance, the Ash-Shuwayfat Industrial Estate is unable to work or produce, and the same applies to other areas. The security situation through which Lebanon is currently passing could have sapped the economic situation at its foundation. However, the Lebanese economy has overcome these difficulties. When studying the present Lebanese economic situation, we will find that it is still strong. At any rate, Lebanon's economic situation remains sounder than the economies of some neighboring countries. Just one example: The dollar began to drop today without the Central Bank's intervention. The reason for the dollar's rise was caused by the greed of certain outbidders who wanted a quick profit. This is yet more proof of the irresponsibility on the part of some people. The basic guarantee of the Lebanese economy is the free economy as well as the freedom to remit funds and other financial transactions. We will preserve the principles of our economy.

We are concentrating all our interest on the security plan and achievement of a political solution that will guarantee the implementation of that plan and consequently the attainment of our patriotic goals as quickly as possible. This holds particularly true in light of the fact that hindering the implementation of the security plan, as I have said, delays the Army's arrival in the south. It also hinders alleviating the impact this crisis has on our people in the south and ending their sufferings.

All officials are moved by what is now happening in the south as the result of the Israeli occupation. That occupation is at the expense of the peaceful people and their social and living conditions. We are now working with this in mind.

At the end of the meeting, the president of the Republic again expressed full dedication to freedoms, particularly press freedom, because it is on these freedoms that Lebanon was founded.

Cabinet Reviews General Situation 28 Jan

NC281256 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Report by Joe Sa'adah from the Presidential Palace — recorded]

[Excerpt] The Cabinet today resumed its Wednesday session to discuss items on the agenda. It reviewed the general security and political situation. Special attention was given to the talks regarding the implementation of the security plan, the obstacles to that implementation as well as obstacles over the promotion of certain military men, and the latest positive stance adopted by the Lebanese Government, which the prime minister has conveyed to the appropriate quarters.

The Cabinet also noted Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim's statement on the need to follow up the implementation of the Casablanca Islamic summit's resolution regarding the Lebanese question and to form special working teams to deal with matters relating to that question.

Plan Developments, Hammana Barracks Issue

Personnel Urged to 'Rejoin' Army

NC271316 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpt] A government source affirmed at noon today that the initiative of urging military personnel to rejoin the army has shown the state's positive and total desire to remove all obstacles precluding implementatiion of the security plan. The same source said yesterday's call to military personnel called on them to rejoin either their former centers or a center to be designated after contacting the Army Command.

Contacts Over Plan Implementation

NC271601 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Diplomatic sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that the purpose of the current attempts is to separate the security plan — the implementation of which has been obstructed — from the 17 May agreement. These sources added that obstruction of the plan will prevent the Lebanese Army from reaching the south and will constitute some risks vis-a-vis the Israeli withdrawal.

This is what prompted the recent move and King Fahd's contact with President al-Jumayyil. The king hoped that a solution could be found to the question of the officers not attached to the Command.

Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam had previously informed Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim that to implement the security plan, the demand for the promotion of some officers was the sole remaining issue to be tackled before holding the second round of the Geneva Dialogue Conference. He also said that all other issues would be discussed at the National Dialogue Conference.

Hamadah Raps Al-Wazzan Suggestion

NC271653 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1525 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] With regard to the patriotic officers who have joined the Hammana barracks, Former Minister Marwan Hamadah has stated that they had not deserted the military, but had refused to carry out the orders of their command, which is subordinate to the factional regime in Lebanon.

Minister Hamadah said in his statement: The suggestion Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan made to invite the Hammana officers to rejoin the Army barracks was a blow for the Saudi mediator, because the return to the Army of those officers and soldiers is not what is required. He affirmed the Lebanese patriots' insistence on a change in government policy and on not turning the Army into an aggressive tool against the Lebanese people, serving the interests of a single party — the Phalangist party.

PSP's Dallul on Promotions

NC281440 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Muhsin Dallul, deputy leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has made the following statement:

The PSP has not been officially informed of the plan submitted by the state to settle the issue of the officers and soldiers who have not yet joined the Lebanese Army Command, particularly those officers in the Hammana barracks.

Muhsin Dallul said any solution must take the continued presence of these officers and soldiers in their present posts into consideration. He stressed that the Hammana barrack's officers and their soldiers cannot be considered dissidents of the military establishment. Instead, they have refused to participate in the mountain events.

Asked if the PSP supports the redistribution of the Hammana barracks officers among various sectors of the Army, Dallul said: We have not yet seen the [government's] plan. At any rate, the military personnel of the Hammana barracks must remain at their present posts.

Military Men Reject Offer

NC290828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The [Druze] military men, invited by their command to join a post other than the Hammana barracks no later than 2 February, released a statement in Damascus rejecting the invitation on the pretext that the question is not one of promotions or unpaid wages, but is one of a political question. In a report, AFP says that the military men want more time than the 2 February deadline to review the situation and want to remain in the Hammana barracks.

We note that this stance has been communicated to Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, who attempted in Damascus to convince the Progressive Socialist Party to amend its stance regarding the government's initiative on this issue.

The Saudi mediator met yesterday with Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri in Beirut. He is due to return to Damascus in 24 hours to meet with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who is currently in Algeria.

More Reportage on Saudi Envoy's Contacts

Al-Hariri Briefs Salim

NC271337 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Saudi Arabia is continuing its efforts, through its mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, to implement the security plan. Al-Hariri today continued his contacts with Lebanese officials, which began with his meeting yesterday with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. He visited Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today and briefed him on the results of his meetings in Damascus with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Marwan Hamadah, and Khalid Junblatt.

Briefs Al-Wazzan, Departs

NC272207 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan this evening met at his Tallat al-Khayyat residence with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri. Al-Hariri briefed Al-Wazzan on the results of the contacts and consultations he held today and on those underway among Beirut, Damascus, and Riyadh. Al-Hariri left Beirut for Larnaca [Cyprus] at 2000 today.

Reportage on U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld's Visit

Arrives 28 Jan

NC280926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The U.S. Embassy informed the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY a short while ago that U.S. special envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Beirut this morning and that he will begin his contacts with Lebanese officials.

Meets With Al-Jumayyil

NC290723 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil, U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld, and Ambassador Richard Murphy have reviewed the recent talks held in Washington. The discussion focussed on future moves, particularly diplomatic ones, and the Multinational Force states' stances vis-a-vis Lebanon until its crisis is solved. They also discussed current contacts for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The president received Rumsfeld and Murphy for 1 and 1/2 hours, in the presence of U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Reginald Bartholomew.

Government Asks France To 'Replace' U.S. Diplomacy

JN271828 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1820 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] A diplomatic source has said in Amman that the Lebanese authorities have asked the French Government to replace U.S. diplomacy in the search for a settlement of the Lebanese crisis. The source added that French External Relations Ministry official Francis Gutman's visit to Israel, Jordan, and Syria falls within this framework.

Al-Wazzan Calls for Lebanese To Unite

NC291432 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has called on the Lebanese to unite in face of the homeland's ordeal, because Lebanon is in danger and threatened with destruction. This was included in a speech which the prime minister delivered during the annual Al-Jarrah Boy Scouts ceremony at the Islamic Center Hall in 'A'ishah Bakkar, in the presence of the association's chairman, Dr Ahmad Malak. Appraising the current situation, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] We are passing through hard and difficult times and facing complex problems. Conflicting forces are active in our land. We were wrong in opening our doors. We were wrong when we sought the help of others to safeguard our rights. These rights were lost. As an honorable learned man said: He who fought for gains lost them; he who fought for rights lost them; he who fought for independence lost it; and he who fought for unity lost it. We are the losers because we opened our doors. We must see how much more we can do. It is forbidden that we look for gains. It is forbidden that we look for things or personal rights, because the homeland, our existence and future is in danger and on the verge of destruction.

We must realize the seriousness of this phase. We must seek pacification on everything not related to the future. We must devote our efforts to saving our future and existence from the oppressive Israeli occupation which dominates us and wants to remain on our territory to fragment our homeland, consolidate its occupation, and destroy this entity and homeland. May God forbid this while blood flows in our veins, our hearts pulsate, and men like you reside in our country. [Applause]

We will not give up our rights. Everyone far and near must hear this. We will never give up our rights. Everyone must know that this homeland can only be built and survive on the bases of justice, real equality, freedom, and democracy. We want Lebanon to live and survive. [Applause]

The enemy is bursting with laughter inside the borders of our dear homeland while we compete for rights. You have experienced the enemy on these streets. The enemy has passed from here, just opposite this center. We know the enemy and the humiliation of occupation. Today we know the taste of freedom and the ability to speak, while our brothers in the south are under occupation, unable to speak and act freely. Therefore, we see them surging, revolting, and rejecting oppression. They are defending their dignity. Everyday there are attacks and killings. Everyday we show our will to the Israeli occupier so he may learn that this homeland, as I have heard in your songs, will remain a pulsating heart from the ocean to the gulf. If this heart is pulsating for the great [Arab] homeland, how it must be pulsating for this dear homeland, our homeland, Lebanon. [End recording]

Salim Leaves for Rome, Vatican 29 Jan

NC291022 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim left Beirut at noon today for Rome and the Vatican, via Paris, on a several-day visit to complete his tour to those European states contributing to the Multinational Force. It has been learned that Minister Salim carries a message regarding the Lebanese situation from President Amin al-Jumayyil to His Holiness Pope John Paul II. Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni and Presidential Adviser Dr Faruq Jabr left aboard the same plane for Paris on a private visit.

Junblatt Repeats Al-Jumayyil Resignation Demand

NC281501 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt has accused Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the Phalangist regime, of backing down on what was agreed upon during the Geneva National Dialogue Conference. Junblatt said Al-Jumayyil went to Washington to discuss the 17 May agreement, and returned with promises to support the Lebaense Army and violate the provisions of the security plan by continuing to strike the southern suburb and shell mountain villages.

The PSP leader blamed the regime because the Phalangists continue to pursue their factional policy, suppress freedoms, and impose curfews in Beirut.

Regarding U.S. policy in the region, Junblatt said: The United States considers the 17 May agreement a prelude to generalizing this pattern in U.S. policy. The United States must keep to its present course to avoid a precedent which might be considered a change in its Middle East policy.

Answering a question, the PSP leader said President Amin al-Jumayyil should resign to avoid more victims, as the regime cannot alter its domestic and foreign policies due to its commitment to a domestic Phalangist plan and external U.S. plan. He pointed out that the alternative for the president of the Republic is comprehensive national reconciliation, which would restore a minimum of democracy and freedoms to Lebanon.

Walid Junblatt criticized the Christian conference [held in Beirut] saying: It was not a Christian conference; it was a conference arranged by some Maronite functionaries. I believe patriarch [Khuraysh] was coerced into attending that conference. He referred to an important point, namely, the absence of Armenian and Greek Orthodox representatives, adding they refused to be dragged to factional Phalangist partitionist meetings.

Regarding the president of the Phalangist regime, the PSP leader demanded that the resignation of Amin al-Jumayyil be tantamount to a bloodless coup, similar to the 1952 coup [in Egypt].

Regarding the Army, the PSP leader stressed the need to make it neutral, saying: We support the formation of a committee to reconsider the present Army and Army Command structure. He added that he will discuss the resignation of Amin al-Jumayyil with his Salvation Front allies, who will declare a joint stand. The PSP leader denied the existence of any political differences between him and [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah, explaining that Franjiyah is chairman of the National Salvation Front and our representative. Our alliance with him will not budge, he added.

Responding to a question on the officers' promotions, the PSP leader said: Sa'd Haddad and all the officers who participated in the civil war and committed crimes against civilians in the southern suburb and Kafr Matta were promoted, while the nationalist officers in Hammana and elsewhere were ignored.

Concluding his statement, the PSP leader attacked U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He said: PSP relations with the Soviet Union are old and very strong. They were established by PSP founder Kamal Junblatt. The PSP leader denied the existence of any connection between his demand for Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation and his visit to Moscow. The PSP leader also demanded the formation of an international fact-finding committee to view the destruction and ruination caused by U.S. shells in mountain villages and cities. He warned against bringing UN forces to Beirut, because it might lead to the partitioning of Lebanon. He also demanded the departure of the Multinational Force.

U.S., French Targets of Junblatt Terrorist Group

NC271330 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The (*LETTRE DU LIBAN*), published by the Lebanese forces' bureau in Paris, has reported that Walid Junblatt recently formed a special cell to manage terrorist operations against U.S. and French interests to persuade Washington and Paris to withdraw their forces from Lebanon. The publication also said that Junblatt has hoarded explosive material and weapons in his house in Al-Musaytibah [area of Beirut] for this purpose, and has assigned roles [al-adwar] to the following members of his party: Fu'ad Salman, Anwar Al-Fatayri, Hisham Nasir Ad-Din, and Sharif Fayyad. (*LETTRE DU LIBAN*) also reported that since Israel entered Lebanon in June 1982, Syria has received Soviet weapons worth $250 million. The publication also reported that Syria currently has 3,600 tanks, 2,700 armored cars, 2,300 artillery pieces, 75 surface-to-air missile batteries, and 75 naval units.

Fadi Afram Said Wounded in Assassination Bid

NC301306 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The area under the fascist Phalangist control is witnessing clear discontent among its people in reaction to the policy of the so-called Lebanese Forces — a policy for which the Lebanese Christians have paid dearly. A significant increase in those displeased with that policy has been noticed. After some political and religious figures and societies refused to attend the Bkirki [Christian community's] conference for being a sectarian conference and to dampen this resentment, the commander of the Al-Jumayyil gangs invited the displaced people of Dayr al-Qamar to a meeting. During the meeting, Fadi Afram, Lebanese Forces commander, was seriously wounded in an assassination attempt and taken to a hospital.

'Killers' of Bashir al-Jumayyil's Child Convicted

NC281244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Military Court of Cassation today convicted the three persons accused of killing martyred President Bashir al-Jumayyil's daughter Maya. The court sentenced Nazih Sha'ya and Joseph Kazazyan to death and Milad Musa to life imprisonment at hard labor.

Amal Movement Leader Birri on Developments

NC281815 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic to Lebanon 1430 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Excerpts] At a news conference today, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said that what is happening in Al-Hallusiyah constitutes a new Israeli policy and is indicative of what Israel is planning. No village in Tyre District has been spared the arrests, the latest of which being the arrest of four persons from Markaba. Perhaps it would be useful for the deaf in the regime to know that what is occurring in Tyre District can be considered as something new in view of the fact that the area is subject to the control of the UN forces. The actions committed there are tantamount to attacks against international society. We have demanded that the Lebanese state request the convocation of the Security Council to condemn Israel and exert pressure on it to implement Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426 — both aspects referring to the withdrawal and nonobstruction of the activities of the UN emergency forces. This terrible silence by the Lebanese authority transforms our relations with it into sad ones with no hope.

Birri then said: It is known that a civil war has taken place between the National Salvation army and Amal Movement on one side and the Lebanese forces and Lebanese Army on the other. The Lebanese Army supported the Lebanese forces against the other nationalist forces to compel soldiers to fight their own kin. During the battle, some groups deserted the Army for basic reasons. Birri added: It really is military heresy to involve the Army in politics. It is indeed heresy not to benefit from past lessons in building a national army. It also is heresy to accuse Amal of preventing the Army from entering the south.

Expressing an opinion over the government's plan to deal with the question of the officers in Hammana Barracks, Birri said: This is a step into the unknown. If we say that its purpose is to apply the laws in force, then it is not a solution but an escalation. At any rate, this plan has been rejected.

Amal's Ghaddar Criticizes Syria, Jordan, Egypt

NC280745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] In Al-Hallusiyah, Tyre District, a sit-in was staged at the township's mosque where the Amal Movement's southern leader, Muhammad Ghaddar, for the first time launched a verbal campaign against Syria, Jordan, and Egypt. In his address, Ghaddar said: The Arabs want us to be the explosive center without giving us any practical assistance. They have closed the Jordan River, the Sinai, and the Arab Golan, and are bragging about their revolution and Arabism as well as demanding that the south alone be the door against Israel.

VOL Says Al-Musawi Returns to Ba'labakk Area

NC290842 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Reports from Ba'labakk indicate that tension prevails in the village of An-Nabi Shit following Husayn al-Musawi's return. Al-Musawi left the village for a short period following increasing resentment toward him after the recent Israeli air raids in the area.

Continuing Reportage on Security Situation

Voice of Truth on Developments

NC271338 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Arabic 1245 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Provocations by the Phalangist factional army against Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] positions on various axes have eased because of the cold winter and snowfall in the mountain. The axes were comparatively calm, except for intermittent shelling and sniper fire on PSP positions in Al-Fsaqin, Ad-Dawhah, and Ash- Shuwayfat. Warplanes and helicopters carried out sorties and fired flares during the night. The situation became quiet after midnight. In the morning, factional army positions resumed their daily provocations. At 0600 today, positions of that army and gangs of the Al-Jumayyil family opened machine gun fire on the Ash-Shuwayfat-Radio Orient axis. These gangs and their army resumed their provocations at 1130 by opening light- and medium-caliber fire on PSP positions in 'Aytat. These provocations gradually eased at 1230.

Army Positions Under Fire

NC271818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] According to security sources, Army positions between At-Tayyunah and Al-Barid Square in Ash-Shiyah [Beirut area] have been coming under machine gun and RPG fire since 1850 tonight.

A security source had earlier reported that the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb came under artillery fire at 1510, while Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur came under fire from various weapons at 1600.

Army Suburb Positions Attacked

NC280858 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] There was sniper fire today at 1010 from armed positions on As'ad al-As'ad Street in Beirut's southern suburb opposite Army positions.

Hezbollah Leaflets in Beirut

NC280856 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The Hezbollah Party has distributed leaflets in the Al-Hamra and Ra's Bayrut areas of Beirut. The leaflets urge people not to keep alcoholic beverages in their houses, not to buy American cars, and to begin wearing the Iranian chador. In its leaflets, Hezbollah also warned against the consequences of not heeding these demands.

Al-Kharrub Situation Update

NC281310 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The situation is unsettled in the Al-Kharrub region. Following this morning's clashes during which bursts of heavy artillery anti-aircraft fire and shellfire occured, the gunmen resumed shelling Majdaluna at 1100 from their artillery emplacements in Al-Mughayriyah with 120-mm caliber shells. Since that time, Al-Jiyah and Majdaluna have been coming under bursts of sniper fire from Junblattist positions in Barja and Al-Mughayriyah.

Army, Gunmen Mountain Clash

NC281557 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The mountain axes were disturbed this afternoon when Army positions there repeatedly came under fire from gunmen's positions in Baysur, Shimlan, and 'Aramun. The Army forcefully retaliated to these attacks.

Clashes occurred at 1555 on the 'Ayn Ksur, Qabr Shmun, 'Ayn as-Sayyidah, Qurs al-Mudawwar, and Suq al-Gharb axes. Army positions there and gunmen's positions in Baysur, Shimlan, and 'Aramun exchanged artillery and tank fire. The violent shelling was replaced by sniper fire after the violent retaliation by the Army's artillery. Some shells landed on Al-Kahhalah and Bsus without causing casualties. Rockets were fired at Humal at 1400 but there were no casualties.

The gunmen initiated this round of fighting by shelling Army positions in Qurs al-Mudawwar and Suq al-Gharb from 1340 to 1430, and the Army artillery retaliated violently.

Car Bomb Wounds 13

NC281926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] A silver Honda with license number 208,358 belonging to 'Adil 'Iytani exploded at 1850 tonight on 'Ayn at-Tinah Street in the Ar-Rawshah area [West Beirut]. The car was packed with 20 kgs of TNT. Thirteen persons were slightly wounded and the windows of nearby buildings were broken. Twenty cars were damaged.

Second Beirut Explosion Reported

NC281918 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Security sources report that an explosion occurred at approximately 2015 tonight near the Ayyub gasoline station in the patriarchate area in Zuqaq al-Bilat [west Beirut]. The target was the Niqula Mudawwar printing press in the Bal'a Real Estate Company Building. Fires broke out in the printing press and office of Jihad Qal'aji. Damage was caused to the building and nearby buildings. Firemen and civil defense teams rushed to the area and are extinguishing the fire. Two women were wounded.

Army Patrol Takes Fire

NC291019 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Security sources said Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur came under machinegun and RPG fire directed from positions in 'Aramun. An Army patrol was fired on near the airport traffic circle. This incident created tension in the area.

Security Situation Update

NC291036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb came under artillery shelling between 1115 and 1200. The shelling originated from the gunmen's emplacements facing the Army positions. The Army positions in Qabr Shmun and 'Ayn Ksur were subjected earlier to volleys of sniper fire. No losses were reported. Two Lebanese soldiers were injured at 1000 when an Army military police patrol was ambushed between the Shatila and airport circles. The Army cut the road, but reopened it 30 minutes later. In another development, concentrated shelling is now being directed against Majdaluna from Al-Mughayriyah. Many artillery shells are landing on Az-Zarut from Junblattist positions in Barja. It also has been reported that mortar shells are now falling on Al-Burjayn and 'Ayn al-Hawr from Darayya and Barja.

Army Mountain Positions Shelled

NC291701 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] We received a report few minutes ago saying that Lebanese Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur, Al-Binnay, and Qabr Shmun area are taking artillery fire from the Syrian and Junblattist positions in Al-Fsaqin and environs. Army positions in Suq al-Gharb are coming under similar attacks from 'Aytat and 'Alayh.

Junblattists Shell Beirut Area

NC292005 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Excerpt] At approximately 1930, two shells fell on Camille Sham'un Boulevard and As-Sanawbar Palace [in Beirut]. Junblattist gunmen's shells also fell in the Al-Kahhalah area.

Army Positions Under Fire

NC300656 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] It is possible to say the security situation in general has improved. The relative improvement began the middle of last week, when the indiscriminate shelling ceased and exchanges of fire were confined to the mountain axes. Early this morning, Army positions on Old Sidon Road [south of Beirut] came under intermittent fire. Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur and Qabr Shmun came under artillery and rocket fire from 'Aynab at 2300 last night. Earlier at 1900, Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Qurs al-Mudawwar came under violent artillery fire. A security source reported that the Army returned the fire and destroyed a tank in Duhur al-'Abbadiyah, which was shelling its positions.

Shelling in Khaldah, 'Aramun

NC300652 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Since 0545 this morning, Army positions in the Khaldah and 'Aramun ridges have been coming under 120- and 82-mm mortar, antitank, and DSHK machine gun fire from Junblattist gunmen in 'Aramun and Bshamun.

Mountain Axes Calm

NC300731 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The latest security reports say the situation on the mountain axes has been calm since last night, although intermittent fire was directed at Army positions on Old Sidon Road early this morning. This was followed by a limited exchange of fire on the Qabr Shmun axis which soon ceased.

Cease-Fire Contacts Underway

NC300949 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0921 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Telephone dispatch from Beirut Airport by radio correspondent Darwish 'Ammar — live]

[Excerpts] The clashes which took place this morning in the vicinity of Beirut International Airport between the U.S. Marines and armed men more or less eased a short while ago. I learned a short while ago that contacts are being made at the highest levels to resolve the situation and achieve a cease-fire. Meanwhile, air traffic at Beirut International Airport remains suspended, awaiting the outcome of these political contacts.

Three citizens were wounded this morning in the airport area by stray bullets, and were taken to the hospital for treatment.

Rocket Fired at U.S. Helicopter Near Airport

NC280816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Security sources have reported that at 0805 today a rocket was fired at a U.S. helicopter near Beirut Airport but no harm was done.

U.S. Planes Overfly Beirut, Mountain

NC281238 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1225 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] At 1310 today, U.S. warplanes overflew Beirut and the mountain on reconnaissance sorties.

U.S. Marine Positions Come Under Fire 30 Jan

NC300820 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0813 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] At 1000 today the Marines' positions on the eastern runway of Beirut Airport came under shelling and machine gun fire.

Shelling Continuing

NC300855 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0846 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The Marines' positions on the airport periphery continue to be the target of mortar shells intermittently fired by gunmen located in Beirut's southern suburb. This has been accompanied by volleys of sniper fire. An Air France employee was hit by the sniper fire. In a telephone contact with the Voice of Lebanon, the Marine spokesman said the Marines had fired back, using medium- and light-caliber weapons. He added that the Americans have declared the highest state of alert.

No Marines Casualties

NC301027 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Major Dennis Brooks, Marine contingent spokesman, has stated that the U.S. contingent of the Multinational Force came under rocket and gun fire. The sources of the fire could not be identified. The spokesman added that the Marines suffered no casualties although the U.S. contingent declared a state of maximum alert.

Air Traffic Suspended

NC300856 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0847 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Security sources informed us a short while ago that air traffic at Beirut International Airport has been suspended after two people near the airport were wounded. Air traffic will be suspended until the situation clears up.

Airport Reopens

NC301014 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1008 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The Beirut International Airport reopened a few minutes ago. A Middle East Airlines plane is now landing at the airport.

Continuing Reportage on Situation in South

Israeli Military Headquarters Shelled

NC271916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon reports that a projectile was fired tonight at 1950 at the headquarters of the Israeli Military Command of the Frontier Guard and the Israeli Military Intelligence Center in Sidon Government House. The Israeli Forces retaliated by opening indiscriminate fire at all areas surrounding the Government House, while Israeli positions east of Sidon fired flares. Motorized Israeli military patrols continue to roam the streets of Sidon and the areas surrounding Government House.

IDF Resumes Combing Operations

NC280843 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Excerpt] It was reported today from the south that the Israeli forces resumed their combing operations which began yesterday along the roads near Sidon's Government House, which was hit by a rocket yesterday and is occupied by the Israeli forces. The Israeli forces are deploying armored patrols, using Merkava tanks, on Riyad as-Sulh Street. Two tanks cut off the main road at the traffic signals.

At 0745 today, an explosive charge was discovered near the entrance to the Ma'ruf Sa'd Foundation kindergarten in Suq al-Kundarjiyah in Old Sidon. Another explosive charge was reportedly found at the entrance to Khan al-Ifranj. The Israeli forces have sealed off the area. At 0900 today, the Israeli forces cut off the main coastal road at Sayniq Bridge to conduct combing operations, which caused traffic congestion.

Last night the Israeli Al-'Aqbiyah post came under machine gun fire. The fire was returned and the clash lasted approximately 15 minutes.

IDF Patrol Ambushed, Casualties

NC290634 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] A report from the south this morning says that the Lebanese National Resistance has ambushed an Israeli patrol on Jba'-Haytura Road. Following a 7-minute clash, the resistance fighters succeeded in destroying two personnel carriers, killing or wounding their occupants.

IDF Patrol Attacked

NC290746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Our correspondent in the south, 'Isa Abu 'Isa, reports that at 0830 this morning an explosive device detonated while an Israeli patrol was passing along the Sidon-Tyre road in the As-Saksakiyah area. The Israeli force immediately cut the road and set up roadblocks. Eyewitnesses reported that an Israeli truck was hit and overturned. Meanwhile, Israeli helicopters are overflying the area.

IDF, Amal Smuggling Collusion

NC291619 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Information received by the Voice of Lebanon reveals the existence of a network for smuggling arms from Ba'labakk to the south in cooperation with Israeli officers. The information adds that this network commenced operations roughly 20 days ago under the command of 'Atif ad-Danas in coordination with National Guard officials. Mahmud al-Faqih, Amal official in Tyre and An-Nabatiyah, and his counterpart in Al-Ghaziyah, Muhammad Ghaddar, are directly connected with this network. These Amal officials recently met with Israeli officials, and their men are being trained by the Israelis with the approval of the [Amal] Central Command in Beirut. According to reports from the south, Ghaddar met yesterday with the inhabitants of 'Aytanit and assured them that the southern areas will not experience what those north of the Al-Awwali River experienced.

Our correspondent in the south has reported that the Shi'ite Army of the south is now under the command of 'Ali Hassun, who succeeded Abu Sati'. Our correspondent pointed out that the Shi'ite army has been renamed and will henceforth be known as the Army of Southern Lebanon [Jaysh Lubnan al-Janubi].

President Al-Asad Speech on Resumption of Work

JN281958 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Speech by President Hafiz al-Asad to the Syrian people on 28 January — videorecorded]

[Text] Dear citizens, what I want and would like to do on the first day I have returned to work in my office after a period of recuperation is to begin my work by praising Almighty God and by addressing my profound thanks and expressing my boundless love to you. This love has always been in my heart, and has been strengthened with time. However, the period of my illness has further strengthened and deepened it, and has increased my faith in the moral, social, and political principles on which this love that I have shared with you throughout the years has grown.

Beloved citizens, the feelings with which you have surrounded me during the period of my illness are a great treasure that cannot even be matched by a combination of all the treasures in the world — in every sense of the word treasures, and by all standards. This is because these feelings are an inexhaustible source of pride, honor, and strength in this dear country. It is these feelings that determine the possibilities of victory over the various challenges we are facing. This is because, in the final analysis, these feelings embody the real national unity, which can achieve our national and pan-Arab ambitions and destroy all the rocks obstructing the march of our great people.

The feelings of love with which you surrounded me were my best medicine and treatment. They proved to me what I have always felt — namely, your loyalty, nobility, sincerity, and courage. The feelings of love that you have expressed in letters, cables, telephone calls, and tumultuous public gatherings; your rejoicing when I appeared on television for the first time after my illness; and all those feelings that you have expressed through prayers in your homes or in places of worship — all this proves that the whole world is facing a great and brave people, who hold to their heritage and who are determined to defend themselves. They are a people who refuse to relinquish a grain of their honor, principles, or rights; a people who do not fear anyone and are not intimidated by any power; a people who do not beg for their rights, but get their rights. Whoever begs for his rights, relinquishes his natural rights to determine the destiny of these rights. Whoever gets his rights, exercises his natural right to determine the destiny of these rights.

Brothers and sons, I was with you the past few weeks with my deepest thoughts and warmest feelings. I was with you with in my thoughts. In fact, you were all of my thoughts. The illness, which is the nature of this life, did not bother me at all. My whole concern was for my people and nation. My concern was our cause, principles, rights, interests, honor, and pride. This concern and your love, with which you overwhelmed me — meaning that you are determined to resist the invaders and imperialists, and build a free and respectable life in this homeland — were my weapons against the illness. This concern and love have been in the past and will continue in the future, to be our unweakening weapon, our unflinching determination, and our unbeatable resolve. The people have never been united by anything except a right cause. The people have only triumphed when they struggled with determination for a just cause. Justice has thus been upheld, and falsehood defeated.

Beloved citizens, you are now the conscience, honor, and pride of this nation as well as the hope of this nation's masses everywhere, because you are the steadfast ones who are offering all kinds of sacrifices in defense of Arab territory and the Arab future. This will continue to be your distinguished role until the nation's masses take their place, particularly in making its fateful decisions. We will then all work in a coordinated manner and in one trench, struggling and fighting to preserve the Arab territory and the Arab future. For now, the burden falls on your shoulders and you have proved that you are worthy of protecting this nation's principles and confronting those who attempt to delude, blind, and make this nation deviate from its march and historical values and criteria. The harshness of the road will not prevent us from continuing our march toward our goal according to these values and criteria.

We have never been and will never be among those who sell the peoples' causes and history, whether partially or totally. We will continue to adhere to and preserve all the pages of this history in one unified book, from which we sell no single page nor relinquish a single word. We wish that those who are running after the tables of the colonialist imperialists to pick up some of these tables'crumbs would view things in the peoples' eyes in order to see what Israel wants from the Arab homeland, how it wants its future state to be, and what black future is awaiting the Arab citizens and their generations in this region if we become negligent and tempted by some features of transient happiness. We wish they would wake up, and thus spare efforts and sacrifices, a more secure path in the future. However, if they do not do so, I would like to emphasize that the doors will be closed in their faces, because we want to live sovereign on Arab land in which nobody can rival us and nobody can impose his hegemony.

Brothers and sons, despite all the black intrigues U.S. imperialism and Israel drew up and are drawing up and implementing in the Arab region in the form of creating difficulties and obstacles to the Arab struggle movement, which seeks the freedom of the Arabs and the consolidation of their solidarity on the basis of a clear vision of the real present and future dangers and on the basis of preserving the nation's sound and healthy future, we must view the future with optimism and confidence based on the confidence in our ability in Syria. This is an ability that is continuously increasing. We have the basic foundation for promoting this ability, represented in our land and manpower. The brave, enlightened Syrian citizen — who believes in his rights and in the sacredness of defending his homeland, and who is armed with determination, continuous training, and good organization — makes us realize that our optimism is not sheer dreams, but is based on a material and moral background that is evident to anyone seeking an objective and scientific fact.

We must work to further develop and organize this ability day after day by continued sincere action. We must also take into consideration that no one can repress of freeze the will of our Arab masses. The features of the awakening are maturing, and it is now a matter of time, steadfastness, and action.

Dear citizens, as I said in the beginning, I wanted this address to be an occasion for expressing my gratitude and greetings as I return to you in good health, thanks be to God. There has not been anything serious reason for concern, because the problem was one of exhaustion. Those who know how I work, and I am sure that thereare many, know that I have been working continuously and hard since the beginning of the revolution. The amount of work has increased in the past 13 years. With the help of God, I will continue to work hard and the results of my work will remain as it has always been. I even hope that with some more organization, the results of my work will further improve.

Dear citizens, I admit that I cannot find the words to express how I feel about you. I cannot find the words to describe the feelings of appreciation and respect you incited in me when you deluged me with your emotions and love. I can just say that I hope God will grant me success in serving you and that He might help us all to build this country and preserve its pride and glory on the path of building the pride, glory, and integrity of our Arab nation.

O sons of our great people, I send my heartfelt gratitude, greetings, and love to every single child, youth, and elderly person — to every man and woman among you. May the peace of God, His mercy, and blessings be upon you all.

Commentary on Al-Asad's Return

JN290906 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 29 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A New Phase of Struggle," the newspaper *TISHRIN* writes: The Arab cause is currently being threatened by a serious trend of capitulation that is led by many sides. Some of these sides have unmasked themselves by joining the Camp David agreements, while others continue to hide under the cover of false slogans such as the unity of ranks and positions in order to justify their submission to enemy schemes. The Arab nation is in great need of an enlightened, truthful, and wise leadership in order to confront this accelerating trend and face the plots aimed at bringing about the fall and collapse of the Arab nation.

Struggler Al-Asad's leadership has embodied the nation's hopes and aspirations. This leadership crowned the will of our Arab people everywhere when it waged the October war of liberation, and proved to the world that Israel could be defeated if the Arabs are truly united against it and if the Arabs are determined to restore their violated rights and usurped territories. The October War was a decisive turning point both in the history of our Arab nation and in the hostile plots. The Arab nation restored its self-confidence and its ability to realize victory.

The enemies were appalled by the Arab achievements in October. They drew up plans to wipe out these achievements and spread defeatism and despair among the Arab masses. Therefore, they decided to display all of their cards and recruit all of their agents and those who implement their policies. The enemies, agents, and plotters thought that President Hafiz al-Asad's hospitalization as a result of fatigue and exhaustion meant that Syria was over and done with. They pinned their hopes on the absence of this sincere, enlightened leadership, forgetting that struggler Al-Asad had built the necessary institutions and organizations that allow Syria to resolutely and relentlessly continue its struggle. Al-Asad's reassumption of the nation's leadership has frustrated the enemies and plotters, who have become satisfied with threats in order to implement their hostile aims. However, our great people, armed with their great leadership, are determined to defend their rights. They will not concede any of their rights, dignity, or principles.

In conclusion, *TISHRIN* says: The contents of President Hafiz al-Asad's speech yesterday are a bright headline for a new chapter of struggle our masses will wage against the capitulationists who are waiting around enemy tables to get some crumbs. Syria will lie in wait for them. It will not allow any of these capitulationists to either stab our cause in the back or haggle over it. Syria has the necessary increasing power that will make the plots of capitulation boomerang, and will expose the plotters and defeatists before their own people. The doors will remain closed in the face of the traitors and defeatists, because we want to live as undisputed Arab masters in our Arab land without anybody's domination.

Khaddam Meets With U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld 30 Jan

JN301131 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. presidential envoy to the Middle East. 'Isam an-Na'ib, under secretary of foreign affairs; Sami Khalil, director of the U.S. Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state; and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the current situation in the region and Lebanon.

Saudi Envoy Conveys Message From King Fahd

JN291252 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1235 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] At 1215 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Tuwayjiri, deputy commander of the Saudi National Guard and Saudi King Fahd's envoy. Shaykh at-Tuwayjiri conveyed a message to the president from King Fahd on the situation in the region. The president asked the Saudi envoy to convey a reply message to King Fahd.

Lebanese President Phones Al-Asad 29 Jan

JN300624 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil last night contacted President Hafiz al-Asad by telephone after hearing Al-Asad's address to the citizens on the occasion of the resumption of his work in his office at the presidency. He congratulated President al-Asad on his return to his office and wished him continued good health. Talks between the two presidents dealt with some issues pertaining to Lebanon and bilateral relations.

U.S. Stand Against Aggression Questioned

JN271501 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the United States is still trying to peddle its liquidatory solutions and impose its hegemony on the Arab nation. It is fully aware that in order to assert its influence in the region it must remove Syria from its path — Syria being the firm obstacle that continuously turns U.S. designs upside down. Thus, in order to achieve its ends, the United States used two methods to force Syria to yield so the arena will be open for the aggressors to implement their plots and so the region will be an easy morsel to both subject and exploit.

The first method the United States used was military pressure through its continued threats and massing of fleets in order to wage an aggression. When it discovered that this method was useless it resorted to shelling and demolishing the region and put its aggression into implementation. Again, the United States was confronted by steadfastness and firm stands.

Syria has faith in its people's ability to struggle and is inspired by the struggling peoples who were able to repulse enormous forces through their persistence and determination. The United States still favors aggression and is showing its willingness to wage aggression in order to achieve its objectives, using various excuses and justifications.

At times, the United States claims that it wants to defend itself and its forces from aggression, forces that crossed thousands of miles to impose their hegemony on the region; and at other times, it claims that it wants to resist an alleged terrorism — a claim which is also the stand of a struggling people against a colonialist power that wants to impose its will, hegemony, and exploitation on them. The excuses are numerous, the proofs are weak, and the masks are exposed to those who can see. The majority of the U.S. citizens and officials are aware of these lies and false claims, and are aware that the U.S. forces' presence in the region is a blatant aggression that will yield only dishonor for the United States and will greatly harm U.S. interests.

The second method that the United states has used to reinforce the first method of threats and aggression is that of plotting, splitting lines, and weakening Arab ranks and exploiting these points of weakness in order to transform them into forces that support the policy of aggression. Under the cover of being realistic and achieving what can be achieved, the United States tried to peddle the Camp David conspiracy and isolate Egypt from the Arab nation, believing that by this it can halt the course of struggle, possess the whole will, and impose its opinions and solution on our nation. But the U.S. hopes were in vain and the Camp David results were a failure. However, the U.S. policy planners did not lose hope and tried through the Zionist aggression against Lebanon to reinforce the course of settlement with the 17 May agreement. But Syria and the nationalist forces had confronted and are still confronting all these attempts in order to foil them.

The aggressors did not heed this lesson and they still use numerous designs and plots. Today we are witnessing persistent moves to impose capitulatory solutions on the region, by exploting 'Arafat, Husayn, and the Camp David supporters in order to strike at the Palestine question and divert it from its course of struggle. This is done by moving the Palestine question from the course of armed struggle to the line of political solutions and negotiations with the enemy, and by robbing it of the ability to make a decision by handing its fate over to Jordan under the guise of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. This is in addition to returning to the united kingdom project and ensuring Arab support for the parties that have been known for their defeatism and plotting.

The Arab nation's long march has proved that the course of struggle is the only course that will achieve its rights. It also proved that the Arab people's capabilities to foil conspiracies are unlimited, and that the calculations of plotters and defeatists always fail. This march has also proved that Syria, which embodies the voice of the Arab masses, possesses the power and ability that can lead the plotters to a deadend. This is not strange, because Syria derives its present stand from the Arab masses and depends on the steadfastness of these masses. The course of struggle will continue to be that of the masses, and the aggressors and plotters will gain only defeat and disappointment.

AL-BA'TH Critical of Kohl's Israel Visit

PM271500 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 24 Jan 84 p 2

[Jbarah al-Barghuti "With the Events" column: "What Have the Arabs Done To Stop Kohl"]

[Text] Before arriving in occupied Palestine, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said that Israeli security is important for his government and that achieving it is not only an Israeli demand but a demand by all the friends of Israel in the Western world.

Kohl has said nothing new, for West Germany's policy of supporting Israel probably exceeds that of many Western countries. Economic, political, and moral support for Israel has been the policy of successive rulers in Bonn. During the fifties and sixties West German-Israeli cooperation was greater than Israeli cooperation with France and the United States in all fields. Despite the fact that since its inception the Bonn government has been revolving in the U.S. orbit, it found in Israel the answer to its aspirations to rearm itself. The first European nuclear cooperation with Israel came from the Bonn rulers and the first U.S. airlift to support Israel started from U.S. bases in West Germany.

Therefore, Kohl's visit, although taking place in crucial political circumstances, constitutes a confirmation of the policy all the Western rulers have been pursuing. And because West Germany is an EEC member state, the visit is inevitably of greater significance with respect to the nature of the general Western alliance with the Zionist entity.

Therefore, Kohl's visit to Israel is within the context of the undeclared alliance between the Zionists and NATO, particularly since the West German chancellor perceives that the security that Israel is seeking is also a European demand. It is also because this chancellor was the first among the West European rulers to retract from the Venice Declaration, despite its shortcomings and failure to respond to the aspirations for peace in the Middle East.

Since this is the reality of the West European leaders and particularly the rulers of Bonn, do the Arabs have any explanation for opening their markets to Western products in general? Helmut Kohl would not have dared to say what he said had the Arabs themselves been loyal to their cause. Kohl is reassured about the continued flow of Arab oil to his country and the continued flow of West German products to the Arab markets. Furthermore he is reassured that the Arabs are the ones who concede their rights and ally themselves with the United States in order to bring destruction and defeat upon their nation.

Therefore, the Arab reply to Kohl, Mitterrand, or Margaret Thatcher is more openness toward the West and more concessions to Israel as long as this serves the interests of the West. In order for the Arabs to have their own national response the Arab masses must be aroused in order to punish the defeatist rulers and uphold the will of their nation.

Cabinet Session Ends; Ben-Porat Resigns

TA291001 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0948 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat resigned from his Cabinet post and did not rescind his decision despite the prime minister's pleadings. This has just been reported by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel, who also noted that the Cabinet session ended a few minutes ago.

In his letter of resignation, Minister Ben-Porat writes: I have despaired of my hopes for the normal performance of the government. Personal, factional, and partisan conflicts of interest prevail among the Cabinet members and hinder the adoption of proper decisions. In these circumstances, I see no sense in continuing my membership in the Cabinet since I do not have sufficient impact on its moves and decisions.

After he submitted his resignation, it was decided that Ben-Porat would continue to deal with the issues he was involved with during his tenure as minister, including the issue of the rehabilitation of refugees. Ben-Porat's aides emphasized that his decision was made independently and was not at all related to any contacts with the Labor Party. They stressed that his resignation does not necessarily entail his resignation from the coalition.

In today's Cabinet session, the ministers heard a report about the German chancellor's visit to Israel. The Cabinet members were given very little information about the strategic talks that were conducted in Washington last week. Minister Moda'i asked why the Cabinet was not informed about the change in Israel's positionregarding the Jordanian task force. However, he did not get a reply.

Meridor Reports on Session

TA291201 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1120 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir briefed the ministers about a series of political issues, and about talks held recently with various personalities, including the director general of the French External Relations Ministry, and the talks held in Washington last week about strategic cooperation with the United States. However, as is usually the case with the prime minister's briefings, he did not elaborate, and the ministers could not learn what has really been happening behind-the-scenes in those talks.

At the end of the Cabinet session, we asked Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor about Israel's position on the Jordanian task force. His reply attested to a certain measure of confusion afflicting policymakers on this issue:

[Begin Meridor recording] This issue was not mentioned in the Cabinet session today. We have announced our position on this issue more than once, and we have informed the United States about it. I do not see room for repeating it now. [end recording]

We insisted nevertheless and asked what the government's position on this issue was.

[Begin Meridor recording] Israeli listeners could learn about the Israeli position if Voice of Israel correspondents searched for it. This position has been announced from this and other podiums in the last few months. I do not want to go back to this issue, because we did not deal with it today. [end recording]

We inferred from Dan Meridor's hesitant answers that debates were definitely held on this issue. In those debates, Israel to some extent rescinded its opposition to the establishment of a Jordanian task force. The ministers were not briefed about it, and the prime minister's reply to a question on the reason for this was that the issue had not yet matured. In reaction, Minister Moda'i argued that when the issue matures and is submitted to the Cabinet for approval, then it will not be possible to change the points which have already been determined.

Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad briefed the ministers about the talks held in Washington last week on all the issues pertaining to economic aid to Israel. Minister Kohen-Orgad told the ministers that a possible pegging of the Israeli economy to the dollar was not raised by the Americans, contrary to what was reported by the media. Also, the Israeli participants in the talks said it was an unfeasible plan.

At the beginning of the Cabinet session, the prime minister gave a brief report to the ministers about the talks held here with Chancellor Helmut Kohl. The prime minister's briefing was highlighted by his remarks that the debates about the FRG's intention to sell arms to Saudi Arabia will be influenced by the U.S. position. In other words, the FRG will ultimately adopt a decision compatible with the U.S. position. At the end of the Cabinet session, we also asked Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor about this issue:

[Begin Meridor recording] In his talks with Chancellor Kohl, the prime minister voiced Israel's position in an unambiguous and clear-cut manner, to the effect that Israel is most explicitly opposed to the sale of German weapons to Saudi Arabia.

I think that the arguments raised by the prime minister in his talks with Chancellor Kohl — most of which were published — stemmed both from the special history of relations between Germany and Israel, and from Israel's special position in the Middle East.

We know that Saudi Arabia has taken part in all the wars against Israel — in 1948, in 1967, and in 1973 — by sending troops. We know that putting such an arsenal of weapons at Saudi Arabia's disposal endangers Israel's security.

We do not think that Germany would be right in taking part in the arming of an Arab state when it is clear to everybody that there is a risk that these weapons might be used against Israel, a country where the remnants of the Jewish people gathered after the holocaust in Europe. [end recording]

Shamir Reports to Cabinet

TA291733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Israel is indeed conducting negotiations with the United States on the task force the United States wishes to establish in Jordan. This was confirmed this evening by government sources. This matter was also mentioned in the Cabinet session, during which the prime minister reported on the talks held in Washington as part of the bilateral military-political group. The prime minister also briefed the ministers on the talks held with the FRG chancellor, Helmut Kohl. Here is a report from the studio by our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer:

The impression the prime minister got from his talks with the FRG chancellor was that it will be the U.S. position that will ultimately determine the decision in Bonn on whether or not to sell arms to the Saudis. This is what Yitzhaq Shamir said in the report he gave to the ministers on the talks with Helmut Kohl. Government sources said later that Israel is activating highly-influential Jewish elements in the United States, to persuade the administration leaders that they should take action to cancel the German-Saudi arms deal.

In the debate that developed in the Cabinet session, some ministers said that Germany enjoys a decisive influence in Europe, and this should be taken into consideration. It is necessary to maintain close ties with Germany because of its present status, despite the past, the ministers said.

Following Chancellor Kohl's visit, government sources got the feeling that the FRG will sell the arms to Saudi Arabia, if only because the guests left here believing that Israel's degree of opposition to the deal is negligible.

Yitzhaq Shamir reported very sparingly to the ministers about the talks held last week in Washington as part of the joint military-political group. This infuriated Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, who argued that for some time now the ministers have been kept in the dark and received no full reports on what is happening in the political-security sphere. As an example, he cited the contacts regarding the administration's intention of setting up a Jordanian task force. The ministers are told half-truths and semi-facts, Minister Moda'i said. Moshe Arens retorted: You are wrong.

Yitzhaq Moda'i announced that from now on he would not voice, in Cabinet sessions, his positions on issues that are not fully explained to the ministers beforehand. Minister Moda'i said that today Mordekhay Ben-Porat showed his colleagues how to act in the case of malfunctioning.

The prime minister dismissed the issue by stating that the delegation that visited the United States has not yet reported to him about the deliberations, and that when things are ripe, he would bring them to the attention of the entire Cabinet.

Minister Ben-Porat Interviewed on Resignation

TA291207 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Before the Cabinet meeting started today, Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat submitted his resignation to Prime Minister Shamir. This Tuesday, as a Knesset member, he will submit a motion to the agenda entitled "Guidelines for a National Emergency Government." Ben-Porat accounted for his move by citing the government's nonfunctioning, and the failure of efforts to set up a national unity government. In an interview to our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel, he said that his resignation is not connected with contacts he held with the Labor Party or any other party.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Porat] Except for the prime minister, not one single politician, whatever his political camp, knew about my move. I did not talk with anyone. I had no contacts with anyone, not TAMI, the Alignment, the Liberals, or Herut. This secret was known only by my movement members, the members of its secretariat, and the prime minister. So there is no connection between this and any events or developments. It is a fact that I did not want, nor did I approach the prime minister with my resignation, before the Knesset session on the no confidence motion last week, since I did not want to serve anybody's objective or idea. If you ask me about my future moves, well, the first move would be to try to set up a national unity government to prevent plunging the economy into a new storm. After all, if there are elections the campaign will last for at least 6 months, since each party will want to oil its wheels before the elections. The second step, in case a national unity government is not formed, would be to hold elections at once, as soon as possible.

[Frankel] Mr Ben-Porat, are you still a member of the present coalition?

[Ben-Porat] I will continue to be a coalition member unless the chairman of the coalition, Mr Shapira of Agudat Yisra'el, tells me I am not. [end recording]

Shamir: Country Will Suffer From Early Elections

TA291658 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that if elections are held today, the country's interests will suffer. He believes that it is impossible to maintain a normally-functioning government when one is constantly bothered by thoughts about elections, so the government must do everything to continue to serve. The prime minister also expressed sorrow at the resignation of Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat. Mr Shamir was talking to a correspondent following a memorial ceremony for the LEHI leader, Avraham Stern — alias Ya'ir — on the occasion of the 42d anniversary of his assassination by the British.

Further on Shamir Remarks

TA292025 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] In the Alignment, people are saying this evening that Mr. Ben-Porat's resignation will bring the general elections closer. Minister Ben-Porat explained his resignation by the government's faulty functioning, saying that he wanted to work outside the Cabinet, for a national unity government. This afternoon, at a memorial ceremony for Avraham Stern, the first LEHI commander, our correspondent on party affairs Nisim Mish'al asked Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to react to the reasons for the resignation:

[Begin videotape] [Shamir] This was his assessment of the situation, and I do not think I should argue with him over what he thinks. After all, when we serve the country, we sense different difficulties which constitute obstacles. The problem is how, if it is at all possible, to overcome them. Some people can, and others cannot.

[Mish'al] Deep down, do you not think that the situation has come and you cannot continue to function with a slim coalition majority, coupled by pressure by TAMI and Agudat Yisra'el?

[Shamir] This is nothing new in Israel's political scene; nor is it new in a coalition regime, and situations in coalitions usually change periodically. Thus at times things are less difficult, sometimes more so. I do not think it is necessary to rush to reach conclusions.

[Mish'al] In other words, you do not think the elections should be advanced?

[Shamir] I do not think so. I think the country's interests demand that the government continue to serve until the end of its term. Elections today could harm the country's economy.

[Mish'al] Perhaps it is that the Likud, or you, fear the results of elections?

[Shamir] I have no fear. In a democratic government there is no room for fear. There is always a need to be prepared for elections, and we are, but it is necessary to take into consideration the country's interests.

Attempt To Sabotage Temple Mount Site Reported

TA281818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The police have confirmed that they thwarted an attempted attack on the Temple Mount early on Friday morning. Two Muslim waqf guards spotted several men using ropes and ladders to pull boxes over the stone walls surrounding the Temple Mount. The guards notified the police, who rushed to the site. They found a large quantity of explosives, grenades and ladders that had been left behind. Police and border police have been patrolling the area since the attack. So far no arrests have been made.

Burg Condemns Attack Attempt

TA291217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The planned attack [on Temple Mount on Friday] was strongly condemned by Interior Minister Yosef Burg.

[Begin recording][Burg] It is the only reaction that normal people can have: To react very bitterly on something that is craziness, that is terror, something that is absolutely opposed to the ideas of Judaism, absolutely opposed to the fundaments of the State of Israel. This I say as a citizen and as a believing Jew. But I would like to add, I will go over all the details of what is going on concerning the security in Jerusalem, and we have to be sure that things of this kind should never happen.

[Reporter David Essing] This is the latest in a series of such attacks. Do you have any leads, do the police have any leads today, as to who might be responsible?

[Burg] We have no idea who it is, but you understand that inquiries of this kind, if it is one individual or three individuals of an organized group of terror and terrorists, this takes time as just last week we saw, that only after 1 year we could find out who at least is suspect [in the Emil Grunzweig murder case].

[Essing] Do you, though, now that there is a group of Jewish terrorists, the TNT [Terror Against Terror]...

[Burg, interrupting] I cannot say Jewish terrorists; it can be also someone in an act of provocation, by non-Jews, in order to bring complications and conflict between Jews and Arabs. As long as I do not know exactly who is it, I cannot say what it is. [end recording]

Jerusalem Arabic Denounces Assault

JN291946 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 29 Jan 84

["Observation" by Yusuf Ya'qub]

[Text] Dear listeners, the general denunciation with which the attempt to introduce explosive charges into the grounds of the holy mosque in Jerusalem was met on the official and public levels in Israel clearly shows that the elements behind this vile attempt are marginal and far removed from the basic principles on which the State of Israel is founded and the moral values which are fundamental to the Jewish people throughout the ages and generations.

The principle of religious tolerance, freedom of worship, and security of holy places for all communities and religions has been one of the fundamental bases which were announced with the declaration of the independence of Israel. This basic principle has always been respected and upheld as recognized by all those who are concerned. The best testimony to this is the current activity of construction and protection of religious places everywhere in the country.

The failure of these elements in carrying out their vile attempt is satisfying and affirms that measures which have been taken to maintain the sanctity of the holy mosque have been successful, thanks to the cooperation and coordination between the Higher Islamic Committee and the competent Israeli authorities. This calls for the continuation of this cooperation and coordination. This was manifested in the meeting which took place today between His Eminence Shaykh Sa'd ad-Din al-'Alami, chairman of the Higher Islamic Committee and mufti of Jerusalem, and Teddy Kolek, the mayor of the capital. [Continued cooperation]is also sought by the security authorities which are concerned with guarding the holy places. These authorities are viewing such criminal attempts seriously and are exerting every possible effort to reveal the identity of the elements which were behind the assault on the holy mosque and to apprehend the criminals so that they will get the severest punishment.

This is a matter of principle for Israel. As Interior and Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg said: The State of Israel will never be lenient on a subject which affects the substance of its entity and will never be hesitant in uprooting terrorism whatever its source and nature.

Shmuelevitz Warns Against FRG Arms to Saudis

TA280941 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] If Germany supplies modern arms to Saudi Arabia, a situation may develop in which Israel will be compelled to launch a preemptive strike against Saudi Arabia. This is stated by the director general of the prime minister's office, Matityahu Shmuelevitz, in an interview published in the German paper *DIE WELT* this morning.

However, Shmuelevitz emphasizes that this remark is his personal opinion and does not reflect the government's stance. The director general says he is unhappy with and indignant about Chancellor Kohl's position. According to him, the arms which the Saudis will receive from the FRG are dangerous even for them. They are unable to operate even a tenth of the quantity they will receive, and it is only the United States which can ultimately save Saudi Arabia in case it is attacked. Shmuelevitz's remarks were made to the paper's correspondent in Israel, Efrayim Lahav.

Shmuelevitz Denies Reported Remarks

TA281018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The director general of the prime minister's office Matityahu Shmuelevitz denies he said that if Germany supplies modern arms to Saudi Arabia a situation may arise in which Israel would have to launch a preemptive strike. Mr Shmuelevitz told our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer that he never said these remarks quoted in his name in the German paper *DIE WELT*.

The *DIE WELT* correspondent in Israel, Efrayim Lahav — who interviewed Shmuelevitz — says that the interview is recorded on a cassette and he can prove the truth of the remarks. Mr Lahav also said that at the request of Mr Shmuelevitz and the Springer newspapers editorial board in Hamburg, he read the final version of the interview to the director general of the prime minister's office lest a mistake had been made. Mr Shmuelevitz inserted two small corrections and approved the published version. Efrayim Lahav further says that the interview was conducted at Mr Shmuelevitz's initiative.

The prime minister's adviser on communications and foreign press affairs, Avi Pazner, said that the interview with the director general was not given with the knowledge or approval of the prime minister.

Continuing Reportage on Visit by FRG Delegation

Incidents During Kohl Visit

LD251223 Hamburg DPA in German 1050 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 25 Jan (DPA) — There were incidents today during Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit to the Knesset. While three deputies from various parties, all former concentration camp inmates, left the chamber without a word as the chancellor arrived, Rabbi Menahem Ha-Cohen, member of the opposition Social-Democratic Workers Party, interrupted the session immediately by loudly shouting: "We cannot start this debate without the words 'do not forget'".

After this the rabbi placed on his desk a placard with a photo of barbed wire fences, an inscription "remember" and a yellow star. At the request of parliamentary Speaker Menahem Savidor, he removed the placard.

Kohl, who watched from the visitors' gallery the stormy start of a tensely awaited debate on a motion of no confidence in the government by three opposition parties, was earlier welcomed by Savidor as the political leader "of a new Germany" which supported the "moral values of a free world". The chancellor's visit has great "emotional significance", the parliamentary speaker said.

Kohl was received in the square outside the parliament buildings with fanfares and a Knesset guard of honor. Later, at the eternal flame for the dead of all Israel's wars, he laid a wreath with a black, red, and gold sash. His visit to this spot showed that the Federal Republic and Israel share in common a "true and living democracy", Kohl said.

In a round of talks afterward with ten Knesset deputies, the chancellor avoided questions on the possibility of West German arms supplies to Saudi Arabia, Israeli sources said. The Federal Republic is not interested in playing a role among the world's leading arms export countries, Kohl said.

Kohl on Arms Sale

TA271822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has indicated that his government will stand firm on planned arms sales to Saudi

Arabia. Speaking to reporters during a tour of the Galilee, Kohl stressed that German policy is made in Bonn and not in Israel. Kohl toured Christian sites in the north today, including Nazareth and the Sea of Galilee. He also stopped off at Kibbutz Ginossar before returning to Jerusalem.

The chancellor later told reporters that his visit to Israel had been a difficult task. The past and history were part of the personal load of every German visitor to the country.

Kohl: No Decision Yet

TA290810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] West Germany has not yet decided whether to sell arms to Saudi Arabia, Chancellor Kohl told Prime Minister Shamir this morning. Yitzhaq Shamir also asked the guest to help Israel establish diplomatic relations with Spain.

The German chancellor then held a meeting with the president. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that President Herzog presented the guest with his book about the Yom Kippur War. The president called Kohl's attention to the chapter describing how the IDF forces on the Golan Heights uncovered U.S.-made weapons which had been brought by the Saudi task force. The German chancellor is now holding a news conference to wind up his visit.

Kohl News Conference

TA291148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is due to take off from Ben-Gurion Airport at about this hour, after a 5-day visit to Israel. This morning he held a final meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who again voiced Israel's opposition to the sale of German arms to Saudi Arabia. After the meeting Kohl gave a news conference, and our reporter Jack Katzenell was there:

[Begin recording] The chancellor stressed that he was deeply conscious of Germany's historic responsibility towards the Jewish people, but the decision on whether to sell arms to Saudi Arabia would be taken in Bonn, not in Jerusalem. It will be our decision based on our conviction and our responsibilities, he said, in answer to persistent questions by reporters. We will, of course, take into account the interests of our friends, Kohl said, but he made it clear that Israel is not West Germany's only friend in the Middle East. It is important for Europe, as well as for us to pursue a realistic and balanced policy towards all countries in this region, Kohl said.

He would not be drawn on how the decision on the arms sale would fall, but on other issues he was more forthcoming. He promised that he personally would try and safeguard Israel's economic interests when Spain and Portugal enter the Common Market as full members. He said that Germany would continue to use whatever influence with the Soviet Union on behalf of Soviet Jews who are denied the right to emigrate, and Jews such as Anatoly Scharansky who are in Soviet jails. But, as in the past, this lobbying would have to be discreet; if it were public, Kohl said, it would only harm the interests of the Soviet Jews concerned. [end recording]

DAVAR Reviews Kohl Talks

TA271152 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 27 Jan 84 pp 1,2

[Report by Ze'ev Struminski]

[Text] The talks between Israel and Germany yesterday reached the threshold of explosion, and the two sides exchanged accusations and harsh remarks.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl was disappointed with and angry about the progress of his talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and the tough Israeli stance on the issue of German arms sale to Saudi Arabia. It is anticipated that Germany will not submit to Israeli pressure and will sell arms to Saudi Arabia. Reports are that Kohl indicated this in his talks with Shamir.

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that the chancellor was surprised by the intensity of the Israeli demands that the Germans refrain from the arms supply, despite the warnings received in Bonn prior to Kohl's visit that Israel would exert strong pressure on this issue.

When Kohl realized that he would not be able to calm the Israelis, the German delegation yesterday came out with a very sharp reaction to the Israeli stance. In their reaction, the Germans say that the arms issue "was exaggerated and blown out of all proportion," and the result "is not useful." Correspondents were also astounded to hear the remarks by the West German Government spokesman, Peter Boenisch, that "one should not turn Auschwitz into a (political) proclamation."

The Germans tried not to give Israel another reason to apply pressure to the chancellor. According to the Germans, the official negotiations over the arms supply have not yet even begun. The German Government spokesman said that a Saudi-German contract on security cooperation has been signed, but the content of the cooperation has not yet been decided. At the same time, the spokesman made it clear that the Israeli claims will be studied and will receive "proper" treatment when Kohl returns to Bonn.

At the same time, sources who are well informed about the negotiations assessed that Israel will shortly prepare a list of demands which it will raise with Germany when and if the latter decide to supply arms to Saudi Arabia. Israel may try to get licenses for the production of German arms systems in Israel.

It should be noted that the political part of Kohl's visit has in fact ended. There is only one more talk between Shamir and Kohl, until the German delegation leaves Israel on Sunday.

The highlighted arms issue pushed into a corner, to a certain extent, the other issues which were going to be discussed —the Israeli-Arab conflict, and Spain and Portugal's incorporation in the EEC.

The talks about possible solutions to the conflict in the region ended as they started, with a basic dispute. The Germans noted that there are positive points in all the plans which Israel is rejecting: The Reagan plan, the EEC's Venice declaration, and even the Fes summit (although they admitted that this declaration is only one step forward in the Arabs' stance and other moves are necessary).

In contrast, the German spokesman defined the Camp David accords as "a substantive contribution" to peace which may be "expanded" further. Israel views the Camp David accords not only as a contribution but as the only possible basis for peace in the Middle East.

On the economic issue, Kohl expressed understanding for Israel's problems, but was opposed to adopting far-reaching moves in Israel's favor, such as a German veto against the incorporation of Spain and Portugal in the EEC as long as there is no full guarantee for Israel's interests.

Kohl's Hamburg Television Interview

DW270833 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 2100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Interview with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl by reporter Robert Hetkaemper in Tel Aviv; date not given — recorded — DW]

[Text][Hetkaemper] When an FRG chancellor — even one such as you who belongs to the postwar generation — goes to Israel, it is not just like visiting any other country. Do you feel your reception here was friendly or somewhat reserved?

[Kohl] Both are correct, and your introductory sentence is particularly correct. We must live with and on the basis of our history, and to German history belong magnificent chapters and horrible chapters. There was a magnificent symbiosis, a centuries-long working together of German Jews and Christian citizens which functioned very well and produced great results in Germany. However, there is Auschwitz and Majdanek. When you go to the impressive memorial in Yad Vasem , you see that there are millions of dead and murdered people. One can only be silent; one is struck dumb in the worst sense of the word. We must be aware of the lessons of history and take them into consideration, but we must also live together with a view to the future.

[Hetkaemper] A central and controversial issue is German arms supplies to Saudi Arabia. Mr Chancellor, what calming and convincing words were you able to find to counter Israeli fears that they could be threatened some day by these weapons?

[Kohl] Above all, it was certainly understood that all FRG Governments, which came from all democratic parties, have firmly wanted to maintain close and friendly relations with Israel. We want to cultivate both. So, this means that we do not have an "either-or" policy, but an "as well as" policy. German policy, FRG policy, is made in Bonn and not in Jerusalem. However, we have discussed our policy and exchanged opinions, and this will continue in a few hours.

[Hetkaemper] Mr Chancellor, is it at all possible to maintain special relations with Israel and simultaneously good relations with the Arab world?

[Kohl] As Europeans and as Germans, we must try with the means available to us, which are not very great, to make our contribution. However, I did not come here to say anything to our hosts that I would not say at home, or that I would not say in Saudi Arabia or in Cairo, Egypt. Predictable German policy means being honest with each other and expressingpleasant as well as unpleasant views.

[Hetkaemper] In the EC the FRG has repeatedly expressed its views on a Middle East agreement. Is anyone here in any way impressed by this, or do the Israelis believe that they alone are involved and competent in this matter?

[Kohl] You know, if you had passed through the more than 2000-year history of these people — which has primarily been a tragic history — it would be very strange if you did not consider yourself to be primarily competent. However, it may be good for outside friendly advice, especially if it is not binding and if help is given. A lot of aid has come from Germany and will continue in the future, not least of all from the young generation. That lends a special quality to our advice.

[Hetkaemper] Israel has great economic problems. What aid is expected from the FRG? Are the Germans supposed to open the door to the EC?

[Kohl] That was two questions — one for the FRG and one for the EC. As far as the FRG is concerned, there are no concrete bilateral problems. We have been making payments to this country for many years within the framework of our development aid, and we will continue to do so in the future. There are talks on individual economic topics, and all are proceeding satisfactorily. We certainly cannot solve the economic problems here with our means. This is work which must be done here, and which is not completely different from the problems we have had to handle.

However, we can do something in the EC. In the very near future the EC will be expanded — I hope all this proceeds as scheduled — to include Spain and Portugal. These two countries as well as France, particularly southern France, and Italy, produce the so-called Mediterranean products. This area is naturally also an important sales market for Israel. With the good will of all involved, we must and will achieve — this is my conviction — some sort of channel for Israeli products in this field.

Mertes Interviewed by DAVAR

TA291453 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 29 Jan 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by Shlomo Shapir]

[Excerpt] The German-Saudi agreement in the security and defense sphere has various interpretations and methods for implementation. This was the assessment by West German Deputy Foreign Minister Alois Mertes on the intentions of his government regarding the arms supplies to Saudi Arabia on the eve of the conclusion of Chancellor Kohl's visit to Israel.

Mertes did not rule out the possibility of German arms supply also to Egypt — which has signed a peace agreement with Israel — although he refrained from providing details on this issue.

A short talk with Dr Mertes, the second-ranking member of the German delegation to Israel after the chancellor, gives the impression that the Bonn government does not fear a U.S. veto on the arms deal with Saudi Arabia. In the talks he held in Washington a while ago, Mertes was told that Saudi Arabia is a stabilizing force in the region, that the U.S. Government has adopted a neutral stance, neither for nor against the supply of German arms to Saudi Arabia, and that if the FRG also takes Israeli interests into account in its deals, this may serve the overall interest of the West.

In an answer to a question Mertes again emphasized that his government is not interested in new European initiatives in the Middle East, that it supports political coordination with the United States and in fact supports the Reagan plan although it continues to take a favorable view also of the principles of the Venice declaration by the European Community. Mertes had no answer regarding the question of the meaning of the phrase "traditional German-Arab friendship," since traditional friendship first linked Prussia, in fact, and then the emperor's reich, to the Turkish Ottoman Empire and not necessarily to the Arabs.

Mertes is of the opinion that despite the significant differences of opinion the chancellor's visit to Israel will be of great importance and his thorough talks here will help him better understand the Israeli view. Mertes hopes for continued good relations between West Germany and Israel.

Shamir To Hold Talks With EEC Leaders

TA291344 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Jan 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Harif]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir intends to hold talks with EEC leaders in Brussels next month. The visit was recently coordinated with EEC leaders and puts an end to the "boycott" the EC Council imposed on Israel at the beginning of the Peace for Galilee war. For about 2 years the EEC has not held any top-level contacts with Israel. The EC Council is now headed by French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson.

Israel attributes great importance to these talks on the eve of the debate in the EC Council about Spain's joining the EEC. Israel fears that giving Spain preference in agricultural exports might severely damage Israeli agricultural exports which are largely marketed to Western European countries. This issue was discussed extensively with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and he showed understanding for Israel's special concern.

Shamir's visit in Brussels will last 3 days. He will meet with Belgian Government leaders and the foreign ministers that will attend the EC Council's talks.

Jordan Rejects 'Conditions' on Strike Force

TA291422 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Jan 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpts] Washington — Jordan rejected an Israeli offer conveyed by the United States to give Israel a written guarantee that the special task force that the United States wants to set up in Jordan would never be used against Israel.

Israel raised this offer in the last few days, during negotiations between the two countries about an understanding concerning the planned task force. As *HA'ARETZ* already reported last Wednesday, it is doubtful whether Israel's friends in Congress will oppose the task force plan when it comes up before Congress this week.

The position of Israel's friends in Congress is based on quiet negotiations taking place in the last few days between the two countries concerning this issue. It appears from these negotiations that Israel is not inclined to firmly oppose the establishment of the Jordanian task force if it achieves certain conditions: Changing the composition of the arms of the force and receiving a written guarantee from Jordan that this force would never be used against Israeli targets.

Israel assumed that such a written guarantee would have an important political impact because it would create a framework of a signed agreement between itself and another Arab country, even if on a limited subject.

However, Amman rejected this offer. As a result, the draft of a U.S. written guarantee which was handed to Israel and which would replace the original guarantee demanded from Jordan is being examined at present. In addition to a written guarantee, Israel expects the United States to actually control the task force which would prevent its being used against Israeli targets.

The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent notes the different emphases of Israeli spokesmen in Jerusalem and Washington concerning this issue: In Jerusalem it was firmly denied that Israel has withdrawn its resistance to the deal.

In Washington, Israeli spokesmen said that the two countries are discussing the issue and that Israel has been traditionally opposed to the sale of arms to countries not willing to hold peaceful relations with it.

It appears that the statement made yesterday by King Husayn to the effect that Jordan has no intention of setting up a task force armed by the Americans follows the talks between Israel and the U.S. Administration on reducing the force's operability and the fact that the King has been having second thoughts.

In the past Jordan was very interested in the establishment of the force. Israel has lately changed its policy of firmly resisting the establishment of the force out of wide-ranging considerations in its relations with the United States, including the strategic dialogue.

Reportage on Visit by Australian Foreign Minister

Hayden Thanked for MFO

TA271347 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today thanked Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden for his country's participation in the MFO. He expressed the hope that this participation will continue after the initial commitment ends in about 3 months. Bill Hayden came to Israel this afternoon from Cairo. He said that he had heard similar remarks from Egyptian leaders. The issue of the continuing presence of Australian soldiers in the Sinai will be decided by the Canberra Parliament after it also hears Israel's opinion.

Tours Refugee Camp

TA281821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden today visited an UNRWA-run refugee camp at Qalandiyah. During the visit, he noted that Australia has contributed over $1.5 million to UNRWA this year. Our reporter Vivian Roysten notes that Hayden has spoken out strongly in the past for Palestinian self-determination, and when he last visited the region in 1980, met with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. The Australian foreign minister met today with a Peace Now delegation, and a three-man delegation from Gaza, headed by the city's deposed mayor, Rashad Ash-Shawwa.

Meets Shamir, Palestinians

TA290902 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Jan 84 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Text] The future of the Australian contingent of the MFO (Multi-National Force and Observers) in Sinai came up at the first meeting on Friday morning between visiting Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, shortly after Hayden's arrival from Cairo.

The mandate of the Australian contingent, which expires on March 31, is quite likely to be extended by the government and federal parliament in Canberra, it is understood. This, despite a plank in the platform of the ruling Labour party calling for Australian participation in international forces only under UN auspices.

In Cairo, Hayden got an official letter from Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali asking for the Australian contingent to stay on.

Hayden spent the rest of Friday and all of Saturday on a private programme, which included a visit to various facilities in two refugee camps managed by UNRWA. Roy Skinner, director of UNRWA in the West Bank and Gaza, and a fellow-Australian and personal friend of Hayden gave him a full briefing on UNRWA operations in his bailiwick.

Hayden met four prominent Palestinian figures at a lunch hosted by the Skinners: Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, former Jordanian Defence Minister Anwar An-Nusaybah, Bir Zayt University Vice-President Gabi Baramki and a former governor of Jerusalem, Judge Abu Ghazalah

Later yesterday, Hayden met two Peace Now leaders, Tsali Reshef annd Arye Dvoretski; and the ousted Gaza mayor Rashad Ash-Shawwa.

Today, after a visit to Yad Vashem, Hayden will call on President Hayim Herzog and then meet Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek.

Comments on Mideast Issues

TA281234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Visiting Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden yesterday toured refugee camps in Judaea and Samaria. Afterwards he gave his impressions to reporter Vivien Royston:

[Begin recording] [Hayden] I have been to the West Bank, to refugee camps before, when I have been in Israel. I was impressed by what were apparent advances and improvements in the conditions and facilities provided by UNRWA. This clear evidence of improvements is statistically verifiable: Infant mortality rates are down, nutrition levels are up, education improvement, and a range of many things.

[Royston] What is your opinion of the settlement on the West Bank by Israelis?

[Hayden] Well, this would be something that we would discuss with the government, at an appropriate opportunity while I am here. We have declared that the settlements, by international law, are illegal, so our attitude is quite clear.

[Royston] Is there any question of the MFO commitment of Australia not being renewed?

[Hayden] There has been some controversy in Australia about our commitment to the MFO for a number of reasons. I have sought to establish whether those reasons are justifiable or whether there are adequate responses to them. I have not yet completed that process.

I started it in Egypt, I am continuing it here, and I will be speaking in other countries as I move about. In any event, I would not be able to give you any concluded view because I have to report to my government, in the Cabinet-government system wherein decisions are made by the Cabinet, not by individual ministers. [end recording]

Reportage on OAU Defense Commission Session

Protocol Establishes Defense Organ

AB290800 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The eighth session of the OAU Defense Commission ended in Accra yesterday with the adoption of a military protocol establishing an African defense organ. The protocol will be submitted to the various heads of state for adoption and will be ratified by member states of the OAU after the summit heads have endorsed it. Observers believe the setting up of the African defense organ will go a long way to guarantee the security of African states against aggression by their enemies.

Briefing newsmen at the end of the session, the chief of information at the OAU Secretariat, Dr Ibrahim Daggash, said the meeting also adopted an Accra declaration on liberation and African security. The declaration said in view of the precarious state of the insecurity of African states, material assistance and support for the liberation movements and Frontline States will be maximized. Individual Africans should be encouraged to volunteer their services to the liberation effort when requested by the liberation movement and the Frontline States.

The declaration also said that henceforth South Africa's aggression and destabilizing maneuvers will be met by reciprocal force, and actions will be taken to introduce common curricula in existing military training schools in Africa.

Addressing the closing session, Ghana's secretary for defense and chairman for the Commission, Rear Admiral C.K. Dzang, said the adoption of the protocol on the African defense organ is a great step forward. He said African governments are duty-bound to accept and ratify the protocol because the people of Africa want it.

Zimbabwe Minister Approves Force

AB271852 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The Zimbabwe defense minister [title as heard], Mr Ernest Kadungura, today described as progressive the suggestion by the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, for the formation of an African volunteer force. He said its implementation could form the nucleus of an African defense force. Mr Kadungura was addressing newsmen in Accra. On South African activities in the Frontline States, he said: We are determined to repel these atrocious attacks.

Zimbabwe Hosts Next Meeting

AB272111 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The second working session of the eighth OAU Defense Commission has adjourned until tomorrow. Today's deliberations centered on the hosting of the next conference. The countries Libya and Zimbabwe offered to host it; but after consultations among each other, it was agreed that Zimbabwe should host it. Conference sources said deliberations so far had been held in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

It is expected that the conference will end tomorrow with a resolution on the protocol establishing an African defense force.

ANC Requests OAU Assistance

AB271421 Dakar PANA in English 1355 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Accra, 27 Jan (GNA/PANA) — The African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) has called for money, weapons, political and diplomatic support from Africa in its just struggle against the apartheid regime, and not troops.

Mr Mfamatumi Makatimi, director of the International Department of the ANC who is attending the OAU Defence Commission meeting in Accra as an observer, told reporters his organisation would play into the hands of South Africa if it was supported with troops. "We know we cannot win a conventional war which is what the racist regime wants. But we shall fight them in the kitchens, the factories and in the streets with surprise attacks."

Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings told the opening session his country would create a volunteer force for service in the Frontline States such as Angola and Mozambique if those countries would welcome such assistance.

Makatimi gave four conditions under which the ANC would talk with the racist regime. These include the lifting of the ban on political organisations in South Africa and the regime's acceptance and commitment to universal adult suffrage in a united and non-fragmented South Africa.

Nelson Mandela and all other political detainees should be unconditionally released from prison and the Bantustan homelands should be [word indistinct], he said.

The interim secretary general of the OAU, Peter Onu, told the delegates who began formal discussions yesterday that recent events had left no one in doubt about the reactivation of the cold war in Africa.

This reinforced the need for them to give serious thought to the collective security of the continent.

He hoped 1984 will be a turning point in Africa's history when action becomes the order of the day and when heads of states and governments demonstrate the political will in taking the necessary decisions on the recommendations of the Defence Commission.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Syrian Foreign Minister

LD282033 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Today at the presidential headquarters, President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN party, received Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, who was carrying a message to the president of the republic from President Hafiz al-Asad, the president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

The meeting was attended by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; the Algerian ambassador in Damascus; and the Syrian ambassador in Algiers.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Algiers this afternoon. He was welcomed at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and the minister of foreign affairs, senior ministry officials and the Syrian ambassador to Algeria.

At the VIP lounge at the airport, Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam made a statement to the press in which he said he was carrying a personal message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to President Chadli Benjedid. He noted that the message concerned the situation in the Middle East, as well as recent developments in the Arab arena.

LIBYA

JANA Says French Readying Military Move in Chad

LD300203 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] JANA has learned that France has prepared 67 military vehicles carrying French soldiers — which will be supported by helicopters — for a move to occupy the Fardjia zone in Chad. This French move reveals the hidden aims of the French Government in Chad, and its efforts to internationalize the struggle in the Chadian arena and strike at the people of Chad.

Chad Asks Libyan Support

LD291945 Tripoli JANA in English 1747 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Paris, Rabi Thani 24, January 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The legitimate, unified Chadian Government has threatened that it will take appropriate action against France because of the recent escalation of military activity by the French Government.

The legitimate, unified Chadian Government's spokesman in Paris, Mr Abdul Rahman Moussa, said France should expect appropriate reactions from Chadian citizens struggling for their independence. Moussa said in his statement in Paris that the legitimate unified government has appealed to Libya to stand beside the National Liberation Army in accordance with joint defence agreements signed by both sides.

Moussa accused the French Government of pouring oil over a raging fire by bolstering its armed forces and overstepping the red line which it had earlier drawn for itself.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Saudi Envoy Discuss Egypt, ICO

LD300145 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0041 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday received Shaykh Ali Musallam, special adviser to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi monarch.

During this meeting, Shaykh Ali Musallam conveyed to the brother leader of the revolution a verbal message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, which included the king's assurance that the return of Egypt to the ICO will never happen unless it agrees to remove the reasons which caused the suspension of its ICO membership in 1979.

Army's Jallud, Jabir Receive Fatah Dissidents

LD271542 Tripoli JANA in English 1412 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 22, Jan 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, yesterday received Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Qadri, Abu Khalid al-'Amlah and Abu Mahdi, members of the provisional command of the new revolutionary movement within Fatah, in addition to Talal Naji, assistant secretary of the PFLP-GC, all arrived in Tripoli yesterday. [sentence as received]

Petroleum Secretary Confers With Soviet Official

LD282128 Tripoli JANA in English 1850 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 23, January 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The petroleum secretary, Mr 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud, this afternoon conferred with the deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and chairman of the Soviet side of the joint Libyan Arab-Russian Committee.

Discussions during the meeting centered on methods of bolstering bilateral cooperation.

MOROCCO

Libyan Delegation Departs After Joint Talks

LD272153 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] A Libyan Government delegation, led by the chairman of the General People's Committee, Jadallah 'Aziz at-Talhi, left Morocco this evening after participating in the work of the joint

Moroccan-Libyan high committee and signing the minutes of the general agreement for cooperation between the two countries.

The Libyan delegation was seen off at [word indistinct] airport by Dr Azzedine Laraki, minister of national education; Abdelwahid Radhi, minister in charge of cooperation; Abdelhaz Tazi, secretary of state for foreign affairs; Dr Tachidi Ghazouani, under secretary of state of interior in charge of national development; (Moulay Munji Aloui Frani), governor of Fes; and the Libyan charge d'affaires, Muhammad Abu al-Qasim.

Joint Statement Issued

LD282014 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Libyan-Moroccan joint statement issued in Rabat, 28 January, on the first session of the Libyan-Moroccan high committee, 25-26 January 1984]

[Text] Within the framework of the historic ties between the two fraternal peoples of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Moroccan Kingdom, and in furtherance of the fraternal relations between the two countries, and towards implementation of the directives of the commanders of both countries — Brother Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, the commander of the Great 1 September Revolution, and His Majesty King Hassan II, the monarch of the Moroccan Kingdom — the joint high committee, named "The General People's Committee of SPLAJ and the Government Council of the Moroccan Kingdom," held its first meeting in Rabat, 25-26 January 1984. At the end of its meetings, the committee had the honor of holding a meeting under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II.

After the joint high committee noted its approval of the work achieved by the Libyan Arab-Moroccan joint committee and the preparatory committee during their first meeting, it discussed the various economic, social, cultural and political fields, and the ways of promoting them. In an embodiment of the profound will to deepen and strengthen these relations, and in rising to the level of the aspirations of the fraternal peoples for economic integration between the two countries within the framework of the Greater Arab Maghreb, as a means leading to the comprehensive unity of the Arab nation, the following has been agreed upon:

I. In the planning field:
In an effort to achieve economic integration between the two countries, the two sides agreed to:

A. Coordinate economic and social development planning in the two countries and work toward jointly proposing and implementing economic policies and productive projects in order to meet the two countries' needs;
B. Exchange economic and social experiences, studies, research findings, information and statistics that could help achieve the desired integration. They also agreed to examine ways to unify plans.

II. In the industrial field:
Out of the two sides' recognition of the importance of industrial cooperation and coordination in moving forward with the process of economic integration, they reviewed the industrial capabilities available in the two countries, the existing industrial projects, and those planned, and decided:

1. To authorize specialists in the two countries to examine the economic and technical feasibility of the projects agreed upon, and to suggest locating them in a way that would make it possible to benefit from the basic materials, work requirements and final products available to the two sides.
2. The two sides will contribute to the establishment and expansion of joint industrial projects in a manner that will satisfy the needs of both countries in the results of these projects, or the disposal of their products in the external markets in a manner which serves their common interests.
3. The two sides decided to cooperate in the following fields: the fertilizer industry, synthetic fibers, the mineral and engineering industries, the aluminum industry, the textile and leather industries, the fishing equipment and fisheries industries, and the drugs industry.

III. In the agricultural field:
The two sides agreed on the importance of establishing constructive cooperation in the agricultural field, and also affirmed the importance of cooperation in the following fields:

1. To benefit from the two countries' experiences in agricultural development, irrigation and dam construction,
2. To exchange expertise and information for the improvement of crops, particularly olives and grain crops,
3. To study soil and combat erosion,
4. To develop livestock and develop insemination, veterinary services and medicines.

IV. In the commercial field:
The two sides noted the importance of the development of trade exchanges between them, and of the opening of new horizons for development in a manner that would satisfy the aspirations of the two countries to bolster the economic relations and economic integration between them. In this context:

1. The two sides expressed their approval of the trade agreement between the two countries that was signed in Tripoli on 4 August 1983. To enhance the objectives of this agreement, the two sides encourage their establishments and companies to hold direct contacts among themselves and exchange visits, delegations and commercial information with a view to reaching all necessary agreements for import and export between the two countries to insure a balanced growth in their mutual trade exchange.
2. In order to allow for exemptions from customs duties and other taxes on the goods produced in both countries when entering each other's country, preliminary lists of commodities would be allowed exemptions in accordance with an agreement to be reached on this.
3. Efforts should be made to participate in international and local fairs, and specialized exhibitions should be held to publicize the products of both countries.

V. Transport and communications:
The two sides affirmed the importance of the development and enhancement of the means of transport, communications and

telecommunications between the two countries because of the help they give to the fraternal ties between both countries, as well as the push they give to the economic integration movement between them. The two sides decided:

1. To create new channels for telegraphic and telephone communications,
2. To develop land, sea and air transportation between the two countries and the roads linking them,
3. To encourage cooperation between the various transport companies in the two countries, with a view to bolstering economic, trade and tourist cooperation between them.

VI. Building and construction:
The two sides affirmed the importance of cooperation and joint work in this field, and the implementation of what was agreed upon in the minutes signed in Tripoli between the two countries on 16 December 1983, with regard to the building, construction and supplies, and in particular:

1. The development of technical cooperation in engineering, land surveys, laboratories and utilities,
2. The participation by contracting companies from both countries in the implementation of the plans for construction, building and development,
3. The feasibility of the establishment of a joint company for building and maintenance.

VIII. Joint investments:
In recognition of the establishment of joint economic projects in the industrial, agricultural, banking and other fields, agreements were reached on the following:

1. The establishment of a holding company to undertake investment activities in the industrial, agricultural, trade, food, marine fishing and other fields. It will be owned jointly by the two countries and will be provided with all the financial and technical capabilities it needs, and will be granted all the facilities that will enable it to study and implement joint projects,
2. An agreement for encouraging and guaranteeing investments between the two countries.

The two sides also agreed to establish a joint bank for commerce and finance, and for giving impetus to trade exchange and the realization of projects as part of the effort toward integration.

VIII. Taxes:
To encourage the companies and citizens of one country to work in the other, the two sides signed an agreement to prevent tax duplication between them.

IX. Tourism:
The two sides agreed to bolster and develop cooperation between them in the tourism field through the following:

1. The easing of formalities needed by citizens of both countries during their tourist visits in order to enable them to acquaint themselves with the various manifestations of progress achieved by each of them,
2. The establishment of joint tourist projects, and the utilization of existing projects between the two countries,
3. The exchange of expertise in the field of hotels and the training of cadres.

X. Education, culture and information:
The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the signing of an agreement on education and scientific cooperation between them, and stressed their support for cooperation in the fields of education, scientific research, and information. They agreed to establish an workable plan for this agreement, especially in:

1. Endeavors to unite school curriculums and books,
2. Strengthening relations between educational, cultural, and youth institutions,
3. Exchanging the expertise of professors, lecturers, and researchers between universities and research centers in the two countries, and preparing joint research programs in various fields,
4. Exchanging audio and visual information programs, and producing joint programs,
5. The distribution of periodical and other publications that originate in the the two countries,
6. The possibility of benefiting from the available expertise in the field of archeology — and the maintenance of ancient towns.

XI. In the field of labor and social security:
The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the achievements made in establishing the basis of cooperation in this field by the signing of the social security and labor agreements. For the implementation of that, they agreed on the following:

1. To exchange information regarding the Jamahiriyyah's needs for Moroccan labor and the possibility of providing it. The specialists in the two countries would meet to lay down and organize plans to employ them in various fields, especially in factory work, auxiliary medical work, engineering, architecture, and technical work for water projects,
2. To benefit from the training capabilities available in various industrial and vocational fields in the two countries, exchange information and experiences in this field, and examine the possibility of benefiting from the technical elements in vocational training centers.

XII. Internal affairs:
The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the steps taken to facilitate the procedures for the movement of the two countries' citizens. They agreed to continue contacts among the authorized organizations in the two countries to study and discuss the problems and difficulties that have come up in this area, and to:

1. Endeavor to facilitate the exchange of prisoners and the handing over of criminals in accordance with the rules of the unified Arab judicial cooperation agreement,
2. Exchange information and studies in the field of combating crime, crime prevention and safeguarding security,
3. Exchange experiences and benefit from the possibilities for education and training in preparing technical cadres in the security field.

XIII. Foreign policy:
The joint high committee has affirmed the importance of holding contacts and direct meetings between those concerned in the

People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Foreign Ministry of the Moroccan Kingdom for consultation on political matters in the Arab and the Islamic world, the African Continent, and on the international situation. This will facilitate the study of plans for coordinating foreign policy and stances on the various issues and events, in an effort to achieve the aspirations of the two fraternal peoples in economic integration within the framework of the Greater Arab Maghreb on the road to achieving the comprehensive unity of the Arab nation.

The high committee has also decided to work for the consolidation of the prospects of cooperation by exchanging political information in various fields, and for achieving a higher level of coordination between the two countries in various regional and international lobbies, particularly within the Arab League, the OAU, the ICO and the movement of nonaligned states, which underlines the growing existing relations among them.

XIV. Joint technical committees:
In affirmation of what had been agreed upon in the minutes of the meeting of the joint committee held in Tripoli in August 1983, and out of a need to expedite the implementation of what was agreed upon, the joint high committee has decided:

1. To form a joint committee of secretaries of the People's Bureaus for External Liaison, Justice, Economy, Light Industries and Planning from the Libyan Arab side, and of the ministers for foreign affairs, interior, planning and economy from the Moroccan side, to follow up the implementation of agreements reached and to prepare for the meetings of the general people's committee in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Council of Ministers in the Moroccan kingdom at their regular joint meetings, held every 6 months.

2. To form committees of secretaries and ministers concerned in the following fields:

a. Economic affairs committee, to be concerned with the affairs of planning, industry, commerce, investments and agriculture,
b. Committee for communications, electricity and construction,
c. Committee for manpower and technical cooperation,
d. Committee for education, culture and information.
These committees must hold regular meetings and submit the results of their works to the follow-up committee.

3. Committee of secretaries:
The formation of joint sub-committees within their sectors to study and deepen the research and cooperation in specific subjects and to intensify the meetings between the competent authorities in various fields with the aim of attaining constructive cooperation and joint projects that would achieve the desired integration.

XV: At the conclusion of the meetings, the two sides agreed to hold the second meeting of the joint high committee within a period of 6 months in the city of Tripoli in the Jamahiriyah.

SUDAN

Numayri Briefs Cabinet on Tour, Policies

JN291740 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Jan (SUNA) — The Cabinet this morning held its first expanded session for 1984 under President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri in order to confirm the method that his excellency adopts to promote the principle of participation and explain the results of the president's moves in the various international and regional circles.

The president began the session by talking about his visit to Senegal, explaining that although it came about from an official invitation, the visit was made within the framework of our foreign policy in the African arena, in accordance with the program for the political organization of the president's third term in office, a policy that is aimed at bolstering and strengthening relations of cooperation with the continent's countries, exchanging viewpoints, and discussing the means to strengthen relations in the various fields.

President Numayri also said that there were close and deep-rooted relations between Sudan and Senegal, and that the visit and the discussions that took place confirmed that the two countries' viewpoints were identical concerning the way to deal with the issues that are aimed at realizing peace and stability in the continent. He added that the visit also demonstrated Senegal's complete preparedness for coordination and continued bilateral action with Sudan on revitalizing the OAU in order to enable it to reach the goals and objectives for which it was created. He also added that the visit emphasized the two sides' agreement on the OAU's principles aimed at using peaceful means to deal with the African countries' differences and realizing policies of good neighborliness, mutual respect and noninterference in African countries' domestic affairs.

Numayri also said that the two sides reached an agreement on the results of the objective analysis of the Western Sahara problem, the Chadian problem, the Palestinian question, the Iraq-Iran war, and other issues that are exhausting the energies and capabilities of the African, Islamic and Arab peoples and that require unified efforts to resolve in accordance with the international and regional norms and charters.

The cabinet will hold its second expanded session on Wednesday to hear the president on the work of the fourth Islamic summit conference and the working visit to Nigeria.

ETHIOPIA

PMAC Chairman Mengistu Observes Naval Exercises

EA292035 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Provisional Military Administrative Council and COPWE chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today observed the Mitsiwa naval force exercises aboard the ship *Ethiopia*. On arrival at Mitsiwa port, the captain of the ship, Capt Mershaye Tesema, and other naval officers welcomed him aboard with a 21-gun salute.

EPLF: Government Effort To Regain Teseney Fails

GF281544 Doha QNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Doha, 28 Jan (QNA) — Thirty Ethiopian soldiers were killed in a battle between Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] forces and the Ethiopian forces near the city of Barentu in the western Eritrea.

Mr Mohamed Osman Abu Bakr, representative of the EPLF forces in the Gulf region, said that the battle the Eritreans waged yesterday thwarted an Ethiopian military onslaught that was aimed at regaining the Eritrean town of Teseney which the Eritreans liberated from Ethiopia during the past 2 weeks.

In a statement to QNA, the Eritrean official said that an Ethiopian military garrison in Asmera yesterday launched a mutiny against the Ethiopian forces and refused to carry out orders aimed at killing the Eritreans and at liquidating them militarily. He added that fierce clashes are currently taking place in order to return the garrison to the Ethiopian forces.

He stressed the importance of the coordination that took place recently between the Eritrean factions, the Western Somalia Liberation Front and the Ethiopian fronts of (Tigre) and (?Asar), a thing which led to the escalation of military action against Ethiopia and to its isolation from its ports on the Red Sea when the railroad between Addis Ababa and Djibouti was destroyed and when the roads between the Eritrean ports of Aseb and Mits'wa and the Ethiopian capital were closed.

Mr Abu Bakr said that the upcoming stage will witness the intensification of Eritrean military action that is capable of regaining the Eritrean towns that have been seized by Ethiopia.

SOMALIA

Central Committee Member Assails 'Enemies of Nation'

[Editorial Report] Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali at 1410 GMT on 27 January 1984 broadcasts a 35-minute talk by Yusuf Ibrahim ali Aburas, a "senior member" of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party Central Committee, who recently returned to Somalia after leaving on "sensitive national duties" abroad in March 1982.

Aburas says his mission was to investigate "the identity of Somalia's chief enemies and their plans." He says that he visited "several countries, including the cities of Addis Ababa and Aden." He describes Addis Ababa as "the headquarters of the enemies of the Somali nation." He said that Somalis abroad are being blackmailed "on tribal, regional, and other grounds" to contribute to subversion against Somalia. Denouncing those who brought Somalis into conflict with their own countrymen, he speaks of "the arms and money dished out by subversive and reactionary elements."

Aburas goes on: "Take, for example, the role Libya plays in programs and plans to exterminate the Somali people. Large quantities of arms and ammunition are coming from Libya. The money and arms dispatched by Libya runs into billions. The accounting system of the Libyan regime is the number of dead Somalis and how much of what is Somali has been destroyed." "Al-Qadhdhafi and his henchmen," Aburas says, "will not be satisfied and will not part with their arms and cash until they see the heads and blood of dead Somalis."

He goes on to say that "major powers involved in anti-Somali programs, like the USSR, Cuba and others" dare not send their own forces into Somalia, and instead sent "the militia of Abyssinia and a few deluded Somalis." Addressing the latter, he concludes with the following appeal:

"You should benefit from the amnesty and be prepared to defend your country, your nation, your religion, and your principles. Know the difference between your enemy and your friend. Long live Somalia."

TANZANIA

NEC Accepts Zanzibar President Jumbe's Resignation

EA291734 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Dodoma: The National Executive Committee [NEC] today, with a heavy heart, received and accepted the letter of resignation of Al-Haj Aboud Jumbe from his (?unique) position in the national leadership.

Ndugu Jumbe has resigned from his posts as vice president of Chama Cha Mapinduzi; vice president of the United Republic; chairman of the Revolutionary Council; and president of Zanzibar.

Reports from Dodoma, where the NEC is in session, say the NEC will continue with its meeting tomorrow.

CHAD

Aftermath of Skirmish at Ziguey Reported

Downed Pilot's Body Recovered

AB301230 Paris AFP in English 1224 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Jan 30 (AFP) — The body of Captain Michel Croci, pilot of the French Jaguar aircraft shot down over Chad last Wednesday, was recovered by French troops early today, a reliable French source said.

The search for the body was made extremely difficult by a violent sandstorm which hit the area soon after the plane was downed, making visibility virtually nil.

Captain Croci was shot down by a missile fired from a column of troops supporting former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei which had raided a Ndjamena government post south of the French-manned Red Line separating the two sides. The pilot ejected from his aircraft but his parachute caught fire.

After the incident, in which a French Mirage fighter was also damaged, France moved the "Red Line" 100 kilometers (70 miles) further north, closer to the alleged bases of Libyan troops backing Mr Goukouni.

French Government Confirms Recovery

AB301350 Paris AFP in French 1258 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Paris, 30 Jan (AFP) — The Ministry of Defense confirmed on Monday that the Jaguar shot down last Wednesday in western Chad has been found and that the body of Michel Croci, the pilot was brought down to Ndjamena on Monday morning.

In a communique issued in Paris, the Ministry said that "in spite of several days of strong and uninterrupted sandstorms, some French soldiers managed to carry out a reconnaissance mission by helicopter over the new line of wells and the 16th latitude. They reached the wreckage of the Jaguar aircraft in Laube this Monday morning. The remains of Captain Michel Croci were brought down to Ndjamena later in the morning.

The communique states in addition that "as it was decided several weeks ago, General Lacaze, the Army chief of staff, will leave for Ndjamena in a few days' time."

Captured Doctors 'Well Treated'

PA290401 Paris AFP in English 0335 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Lome, Jan 29 (AFP) — Two Belgian doctors taken prisoner Tuesday by Chadian rebels are unharmed and in good spirits, rebel radio reported Saturday night in a broadcast monitored in the Togolese capital. The two doctors, members of the medical organization Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Frontiers) were captured during a rebel attack on the government post at Ziguey, 250 kms (150 miles) north of Ndjamena.

In a telegram read over the rebel radio network, the two doctors — Marie-Chantal Rouckens and Christian Delzene, both 26 — said their physical condition and morale were good and that they were being "well treated by the officers of the National Liberation Army." They ended the telegram with a message to their families: "We hope to see you soon."

The broadcast did not reveal the whereabouts of the doctors and their captors.

'Red Line' Shifted North

LD271746 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The French Government has just announced the measures that are to be taken following the destruction of the French Jaguar aircraft in Chad and the death of its pilot. The famous Red Line that cuts the country in two is to be pushed 100 km further north, that is to say, to the level of the 16th parallel. This will make it possible to extend the perimeter of security of the French soldiers stationed in Chad.

One can say that this is a particularly original tactical measure. One will not be able to speak of direct reprisals, as was the case with what occurred at Ba'labakk in Lebanon. But it is a gesture of firmness that will obviously be interpreted as such by the Libyan Government.

Minister Assesses Libyan Threat

LD290937 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] In Chad the situation appears to be calm after the French Army's decision to advance the Red Line 100 km northward. However, the spokesman of Goukouni Oueddei's rebels has threatened France with an appropriate response. He also said that his movement appealed to Libya. But on the other side of the Red Line there is some concern about the possibility of a new offensive by the rebels. This is what Soumalia Mahamat, Hissein Habre's minister of information, said to our special correspondent, Ulysse Gosset:

[Begin recording] [Soumalia] In addition to the aggression which was reported to the public on the 24th, I would like to inform you that there are intensive preparations on the Libyan side which appear to threaten the Red Line, and beyond it the entire eastern region of the country.

[Gossett] So you say there is movement by enemy forces; but what is actually happening there? Movement of convoys, of (?vehicles) — what exactly is going on there?

[Soumalia] I can not give you details at present, but according to our sources it would appear that near Fada intensive preparations are in progress, and they would be aimed at launching an attack against the positions of the Chadian national forces in the eastern part of the country.

[Gossett] What is the reaction of the Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre to this threat?

[Soumalia] It is not the first time that we are faced with a threat. We know that Libya occupied half of Chad. The national and international public opinion has no doubt about it, and we are sure that Libya will pursue its policy of invasion against Chad; and, as a result, the Chadian Government will fulfill its responsibilities, as we have stated in a recent communique. [end recording]

Government, GUNT Spokesmen Comment

LD271516 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] In Ndjamena, Chadian Information Minister Soumalia Mahamat accuses Tripoli and calls on the friends of the Ndjamena government to show increased vigilance:

[Begin Soumalia recording] It is serious, and it occurs after the failure of the Addis Ababa national reconciliation conference ordered by Tripoli. It proves, first, that Libya persists in her intentions to continue to annex Chad; second, the responsibility for this aggression by the enemy, which has penetrated more than 600 kilometers from Faya and 200 kilometers south of the 15th parallel, lies entirely with the Libyan occupier. This new action by Libya should induce Chad's friends to display vigilance. The Government of the Third Republic, for its part, is determined to assume all its responsibilities. [end recording]

As for Goukouni Oueddei's side, it states that this is not the first time that the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] forces have crossed the Red Line — which, moreover, the GUNT does not recognize — and that it will do so again; but the impression is that it would like to somewhat minimize the affair. The GUNT spokesman, Moussa Abderramane, is interviewed by (Daniel Desesquelle):

[Begin recording] [Abderramane] For us, this Red Line is an imaginary one. We do not accept the division of Chad in two. You know, we are Chadians, and we have acted in order to alert national and international opinion, and it is not for the first time. We have commandos within Chad, in the center of the country, even in the regions of Guera, Bata and Chari-Baguirmi. We have commandos there carrying out operations. We also have commandos in the south of the country; and thus, it is not the first time that our forces go south of the Red line.

[(Desesquelle)] Is it a mere skirmish, or is it a change in GUNT's strategy and a resumption of the offensive?

[Abderramane] Well, you know, we still consider it only an incident, because we do not believe the French paratroopers could attack Chadians circulating within their own country. For us it is an incident. We believe the French Government can avoid such clashes with us. [end recording]

GUNT Decries French 'Aggression'

NC281305 Paris AFP in English 1225 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 28 (AFP) — France's decisions to move its "Red Line" separating warring factions in Chad 100 kms (60 miles) to the north and to send more planes there constitute "a declaration of war against the struggling Chadian people", a spokesman for the rebels said here today.

Telero Gadengar, secretary of state for foreign affairs in ousted President Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT), accused the French of "aggression" and said the moves showed France wanted to become more involved in the war in Chad.

Three thousand French soldiers are supporting the forces of President Hissein Habre south of the Red Line. The Libyan-backed GUNT troops hold the north of the country.

Mr. Gadengar said his movement was not seeking confrontation with France but was determined to defend itself if attacked.

The latest French moves made the situation on the ground "very dangerous", because it brought French and GUNT troops closer together, he said, pointing out that Koro Toro and Oum Chalouba, now under French protection, were only 100 kms (60 miles) south of the main GUNT bases of Faya Largeau and Fada.

Mr. Gadengar also felt the French moves would strengthen Mr. Habre's refusal to negotiate with GUNT and this in turn could lead to renewed clashes.

Bardai Radio Assails 'Imperialism'

AB301000 Paris AFP in French 0802 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Lome, 30 January (AFP) — "If the French want war, they will have it," the radio of President Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government of Chad (GUNT — in opposition), monitored in Lome, affirmed on Sunday evening.

Commenting on France's recent decision to increase its military force in Chad, this radio — which transmits from the GUNT's headquarters in Bardai in the Tibesti region in northern Chad — stated that "French imperialism was relying on a military settlement of the Chadian problem."

"Therefore, it is no longer the diplomats but the officers of the Manta operation (name given to the present French commitment operation in Chad) who will now speak," the radio added.

"This will not be the first experience of the revolutionary Chadian force. They have already victoriously confronted the French legionaires. They are determined, as they have just proved, to face the French intervention," the radio continued.

"Through its fault and for failing to withdraw honorably, the Mitterrand government now finds itself stuck in Chad," Radio Bardai concluded.

BENIN

Foreign Minister Adjibade Appeals for Drought Aid

AB270910 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Following the decision by the National Executive Council to seek international aid to combat drought and in view of the seriousness of the effects of the drought on our national economy and life, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Comrade Tiamiou Adjibade met with members of the diplomatic corps this morning at the conference hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He informed them about the situation prevailing in the country owing to the current serious climatic changes, so that they may inform the governments and organizations they represent in Cotonou to enable Benin to obtain the international aid that is indispensable for efficient action against the effects of the drought. Here is the speech made this morning by Comrade Adjibade to the members of the diplomatic corps:

[Begin recording] Honorable heads of diplomatic and consular missions, honorable representatives of international organizations, ladies and gentlemen: As representatives here in the People's Republic of Benin [RPB], you and your respective international governments and organizations are no doubt aware of the economic situation our country is facing. Apart from the added effects of the serious world economic crisis, the alarming situation the RPB is experiencing has worsened because of the phenomenon of drought and desert encroachment. It is because of this dramatic situation, which is seriously affecting our development efforts, that the National Executive Council has declared all the provinces in the country disaster areas and has asked me to give you the following message:

Your Excellencies, while the Beninese people are courageously trying to overcome the heavy consequences of the worsened overall economic situation, they must face the unconventional consequences of unprecedented climate disorder. In fact, the three main areas which characterize the varied climate of the RPB are marked today by worrisome and dramatic changes. There is a sharp drop in rainfall, and severe drought and serious lack of water throughout the territory, especially in the northern, central and southern regions.

This marked climatic disorder is all the more preoccupying because it has had serious repercussions on our production in general— on our crop production, on our livestock, and on our people. Due to the lack of rain, most of our rivers are almost dry and the small amounts of water found in them are polluted.

In the face of this unfavorable economic, climatic, and water situation, the Beninese people must organize and fight to ensure their survial. It is in this framework that the Beninese authorities, party and state, have envisaged and implemented radical measures to reduce the specter of malnutrition, shortages, and famine on our hardworking people by sending drinking water from the urban areas to the most affected areas in the interior, by mobilizing all the means available, by preventing pollution in the existing water sources, and by desperately sinking wells in different conditions, often without results.

Measures have also been taken to prevent the destruction of our livestock and satisfy the minimum meat requirements of the people. To prevent the paralysis of our units of production and services due to lack of electricity, we have turned to thermal power stations. Finally, we have adopted a sound and positive policy of reforestation.

Your Excellencies, it is obvious that in spite of the measures taken by the Beninese authorities, they are not enough to combat the harmful and serious effects of the various difficulties caused by the drought and the economic crisis our country, the RPB, is facing. In view of the unfavorable, difficult, desperate, and dramatic situation faced by the RPB, the Beninese authorities are appealing to international solidarity to back up the efforts being made by the Beninese people to overcome the effects of the great climatic calamity imposed upon us by nature.

Today, in the face of the persistent drought and the resulting lack of water and the cruel consequences which seriously threaten us, you may intervene on our behalf with the states and organizations you have the honor of representing in order to help us overcome the harmful effects of the great natural calamity — the drought — which has hit Benin at present. That is why we are launching an urgent appeal to you to seek international solidarity on our behalf by encouraging your respective governments and organizations to contribute actively and positively to the urgent measures being implemented: the supply of food, especially grains; the setting up of drinking water supply units for the people; the supply of the means to rehabilitate Beninese livestock, including livestock from neighboring countries; the acquisition of adequate means such as generators to make up for the deficit in electrical energy, and so on. Any action that you will find useful in helping us to solve the serious problem of all kinds of scarcities threatening the lives and the survival of our people will be accepted favorably and appreciated.

Your Excellencies, water is the source of life. This universally accepted concept is enough for one to understand the significance of our present appeal, which is not casual but instead constitutes for us a final resort in view of the size of our country and the modest resources it has at its disposal. That is why the National Executive Council has asked me to appeal to you to approach your governments and organizations to be kind enough to respond to this appeal in all ways possible to enable the Beninese people to overcome once more this new test.

Thank you. Ready for the revolution! The struggle continues! [end recording]

GAMBIA

'Arafat Holds Press Conference in Banjul 25 Jan

AB271343 Dakar PANA in English 1325 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Banjul, 27 Jan (GINS/PANA) — The Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, stands by its Algiers declaration to form a confederation with Jordan, Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said at a press conference in Banjul on Wednesday at the end of his one-day visit.

He said he has been authorised by the Palestine National Council, the PLO ruling body, to open negotiations with Jordan's King Husayn on the matter. He described (?statements by) [words indistinct] and German leaders as indicative of international opinion being on the side of the PLO, and that "it is important" that the American Administration issue a similar statement.

'Arafat attributed the present fratricidal struggle within the PLO to interference by Arab states in the Organization's affairs through their puppets.

GUINEA-BISSAU

D'Almada, Portugal's Gama Sign Joint Communique

LD280221 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2230 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The foreign ministers of Portugal and Guinea-Bissau have greeted the establishment of a dialogue between Mozambique and South Africa. This the main point in the joint communique signed today in Bissau by Jaime Gama and Cabral d'Almada at the end of the former's visit to Guinea-Bissau.

The communique voices the hope that dialogue established between Maputo and Pretoria may help towards solving the problems of southern Africa.

The communique condemns the occupation of Angolan territory by South Africa as a breach of international law. It voices support for the Namibian people's struggle for independence, pointing out that this problem can only be resolved by means of the strict implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

On the question of East Timor the two ministers pledge their continued efforts towards finding a resolution to the problem.

Also emphasized in the communique is the support for the struggle of the people of the Western Sahara and a call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanese territory.

The two foreign ministers have signed a general cooperation agreement. Particular emphasis is given to the technical, scientific and cultural spheres. There is to be an intensification of economic, financial, commercial, and industrial cooperation. The two sides have agreed on the feasibility of mixed companies being formed in the areas of cashew growing, fisheries, timber, metallurgics, the manufacture of agricultural implements, and civil engineering.

LIBERIA

Draft Constitution Presented to Head of State Doe

AB271850 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The draft constitution of Liberia has been officially presented to the head of state, CIC [Commander in Chief] Dr Samuel K. Doe, by the speaker and members of the PRC [People's Redemption Council].

Speaking at the presentation ceremony, PRC Speaker Brigadier General Jeffred Gbatu said upon reviewing the document, the Council deemed it necessary to submit same to the head of state for his consideration. Gen Gbatu said in this connection: CIC Doe may dissolve the PRC when such a move becomes appropriate and be warranted by the process of carrying out this mandate. Speaker Gbatu also said the PRC's sense of responsibility for the welfare of the Liberian people, coupled with the need to give them the opportunity to continue with the Council's policies and programs, makes it necessary to appeal to the head of state not to turn down any appeal from the citizens for him to stand for the Presidency during the next elections.

Receiving the draft constitution, Dr Doe informed members of the Council that the document will be submitted to the National Elections Commission in view of the points raised by the Council. CIC Doe then requested that the Elections Commission consult with the National Constitutional Advisory Assembly to resolve the issue before presenting the draft for a national referendum.

The ceremony took place today at the Executive Mansion and was witnessed by an array of government officials, the diplomatic corps, and top brass of the Armed Forces of Liberia.

Additional Details on Banning of DAILY OBSERVER

AB271227 Dakar PANA in English 1150 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Monrovia, 27 Jan (LINA/PANA) — The ruling People's Redemption Council [PRC] of Liberia has banned the largest circulating independent newspaper in Liberia, the *DAILY OBSERVER*.

The minister of justice, Major Jenkins Z.B. Scott, has been mandated to file "revocation proceedings" against the *OBSERVER* Corporation to nullify its article of incorporation.

The banning of the newspaper was announced in Monrovia at a press conference yesterday by Vice Head of State Maj J. Nicholas Podier. He said ever since the *DAILY OBSERVER* newspaper started, after the April 12, 1980 revolution, it has continued to carry "out disobliged journalistic procedures." He said the newspaper indulged in "disparaging publications and disiminated dissension which savour scandalous articles patently intended to relegate officials of government and poor citizens."

The paper was bent on "once more dissimulating our institutions to create fraction, separatism and sectionalistic ideology which before eluded our country," Vice Head of State Podier said.

General Podier cited a story carried by the paper which the brother of the managing director of the paper, K. Neville A. Best, had reported in an interview he had with a Nigerian politician, Mr T.O.S. Benson. In the article, Mr Benson reportedly echoed his plea to the PRC not to abandon its plan to return the country to democratic rule by 1985.

In his reaction, General Podier said, "As this matter is a subject of proper domestic inquiry and ought to be discussed, we cannot perceive any justifiable reasons why the *DAILY OBSERVER* should publish a matter of domestic enquiry during the visit of the Israeli President Hayim Herzog to our country."

The *DAILY OBSERVER* has done everything "humanly possible to dissuade potential investors from coming into the country as a result of its inimical and elusive articles against government development schemes," Vice Head of State Podier charged.

Two weeks ago, General Podier fined the paper 1,500 dollars and threatened to stop the paper indefinitely if the fine was not paid into the government's coffers the same day for what he described as "assassination" of his character.

This is the fourth time the paper has been ordered closed by the government since its launching three years ago.

NIGERIA

FMG Retires Former Federal Permanent Secretaries

AB271852 Lagos NAN in English 1702 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan. 27 (NAN) — An unusually large crowd of sympathisers, including friends and relations, last night in Lagos besieged the homes of some of the federal permanent secretaries retired by the Federal Military Government [FMG], a NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA correspondent who went around said.

A source said that retirement notices were given to the officers at an emergency meeting of all federal permanent secretaries held in Lagos on Wednesday.

Those retired include: Mr. Moses Udebiuwa (commerce and industry) Mr. George Nwanze (transport and aviation), Alhaji M. Liman (agriculture), Alhaji Aminu Saleh (defence), Mr. Fredrick Menkiti (general services), Alhaji Kasium Idris (police affairs), Mr. G.A. Fatoye (public service department), Mr. E.E. Nsefik (Federal Capital Territory).

The others are: Mr. R.S.G. Agiobu-Kemmer (Federal Civil Service Commission), Mr. F.T. Adesanoye (petroleum), Mr. M.I. Alege, Mr. I. Akande, Mr. E. Olowu, Mr. C.A. Tugbobo, Mr. S.N. Egbo, Mr. E. Omoyele and Mr. E.A. Offiong.

The retirement of the permanent secretaries was said to have been made in the national interest and in consonance with the military administration's policy of pruning the number of ministries and departments.

Some of the permanent secretaries had not been assigned to any ministries or departments before they were retired.

Buhari Approves New Appointments

AB272145 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The appointment and redeployment of 33 permanent secretaries have been approved by the head of state and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. A circular filed today by the secretary to the Federal Military Government, Gray E. Longe, said all the appointments will take effect from Monday, next week.

Buhari: Middlemen, Party Agents Ruined Economy

AB281135 Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 28 (NAN) — The head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, yesterday in Lagos blamed the decline in the nation's economy on the middlemen and party agents in the ousted regime. He said that the Federal Military Government was in possession of documents used by politicians in the former administration to sap the nation's economy.

Maj Gen Buhari, who made the comments while receiving the U.S. roving ambassador, retired Lt Gen Vernon Walters, at Dodan Barracks said that all loopholes through which the economy was looted were being plugged by his administration.

The head of state said that the Federal Military Government would ensure fair trials of all persons detained in connection with fraud or corruption. He appealed to the international community to cooperate with Nigeria in its bid to re-direct its social and economic system.

Earlier, Lt Gen Walters had expressed satisfaction with the efforts being made by the administration to revamp the economy.

Lt Gen Walters, who was in Nigeria to deliver a goodwill message from President Ronald Reagan to the head of state, left Nigeria last night to visit Morocco and Australia.

Walters Delivers Reagan Message to Buhari

AB271755 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has stressed the need to take stringent measures to ensure national security and the stability of the country. Gen Buhari made the assertion at a meeting he held with the directors of the Nigerian Security Organization, NSO, in Lagos today. He had earlier addressed military and police officers, as well as federal permanent secretaries on the aims and objectives of the military administration and the roles they are expected to play.

Also today, Maj Gen Buhari received a message from President Ronald Reagan of the United States. The contents of the message were not disclosed. It was delivered by an American roving ambassador, retired Lieutenant General Vernon Walters. Speaking with newsmen after the meeting at Dodan Barracks, the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, who was with the head of state, said the envoy's visit was a follow-up to the Liman-Ciroma mission to member countries of the world [as heard] to explain the reasons for the change of government in Nigeria and the quest for political and economic stability by the Federal Military Government [FMG]. The minister expressed delight that the American Government had responded promptly by sending Ambassador Walters to Nigeria and to hold talks with the officials of the FMG.

Dr Gambari said the talks between the two countries were very frank and free and could prove useful to the two nations.

Buhari Addresses Ceremony for Perez de Cuellar

AB270832 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government says it will never mortgage Nigeria's economy to foreign interests. Speaking at a farewell ceremony in honor of the United Nations secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, gave an assurance that the country's economic destiny would be firmly controlled by Nigerians.

He restated that his administration had resolved to grapple with Nigeria's economic problems and ensure a vastly improved quality of life for Nigerians through prudent management. General Buhari remarked that inasmuch as his administration would welcome assistance from external sources, it would not compromise Nigeria's independence.

On South Africa, the head of state warned that there was a serious danger of racial conflict which will have worldwide consequencies. General Buhari said that Nigeria would continue to give the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia all moral and material assistance.

Earlier, Mr Perez de Cuellar pledged his commitment to the cause of developing countries, of which Peru, his home country, is one. He thanked the Government and people of Nigeria for the warm reception accorded him, adding that he looked forward to more visits to Nigeria in the future.

Government Expresses Concern Over Chadian Conflict

AB271623 Lagos NAN in English 1615 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan. 27 (NAN) — Nigeria is worried over the escalation of the crisis in Chad, the minister of external affairs, Dr. Ibrahim Gambari, said in Lagos today.

He told newsmen at Dodan Barracks that the recent shooting down of a French Air Force plane north of Ndjamena could further deepen the crisis.

Dr. Gambari said that the head of state, Maj-Gen. Muhammadu Buhari, had already conveyed Nigeria's concern on the Chadian situation to the OAU chairman, Lt-Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Nigeria, he said, had suggested to the OAU to convene a meeting to find a lasting solution to the crisis. What was important to us, he said, was stability in Chad as well as peace on the African Continent.

Also today, the head of state received a special envoy from the U.S. The envoy, retired Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters, delivered a special message from the U.S. Government to Gen. Buhari. The envoy later held discussions with Nigerian officials on areas of cooperation between the two countries.

Information Minister Inspects NAN, Promises Funding

AB271630 Lagos NAN in English 1619 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 27 (NAN) — The minister of information, youth development, sports and culture, Group Capt. Sampson Omeruah, today in Lagos said that the Federal Military Government recognised the crucial role of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) and promised to look into the financial and accomodation problems of the agency.

Group Capt. Omeruah, who was visiting the headquarters of the agency in the course of his tour of departments and parastatals in his ministry, said, "NAN is very important to us and we want to hold it close to our chest." He said that NAN was very well organised and appealed to the management to look inwards to raise more funds and cut down waste. The minister, however, promised that as soon as the country's economy improved, NAN would be given all the necessary financial support. He promised to look into the termination of subscription to special news delivery service by NAN to Nigerian missions abroad.

Earlier, the general manager of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA Mr. Onuora Nzekwu, had told the minister that since NAN was established six years ago, it had faced the problem of erratic funding and accommodation for members of its staff. He said that funds made available to NAN had been progressively cut yearly, adding "if this trend continues, we will be forced to retrench staff."

The general manager had told the minister that the Ministry of External Affairs had written to NAN to stop the service "due to financial and other considerations." Mr. Nzekwu said that NAN was delivering its news services to 39 Nigerian missions abroad at the rate of 4,000 naira per mission.

The special news service to Nigerian embassies abroad was designed to supply news about Nigeria daily to enable the missions to have the latest news about Nigeria. All the Nigerian embassies receiving the service and Nigerians abroad agree that the service was very useful and invaluable.

Hadj Charter Flights to Saudi Arabia Suspended

AB271600 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] All charter flights to Saudi Arabia for the umra lesser hadj have now been suspended with immediate effect by the Federal Military Government. However, all commercial flights by Nigeria Airways are not affected. The order was contained in a statement issued by the minister of transport and aviation in Lagos today.

Chief Ojukwu Detained for 'Political Activities'

AB271952 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The Federal Government has given reasons for detaining the former secessionist leader, Chief Odumegu Ojukwu. The minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Major General

Mamoun Vatsar, told newsmen in Bida that Chief Ojukwu was being held for his political activities. He stated that the former rebel leader would have to account for his stewardship as the national vice chairman of the proscribed NPN [National Party of Nigeria].

TOGO

President Eyadema Welcomes Guinea's Sekou Toure

AB272158 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Guinean head of state Ahmed Sekou Toure, who is the secretary general of the Democratic Party of Guinea and President of the People's Revolutionary Democratic Republic of Guinea, arrived in Lome this afternoon for a friendly working visit to Togo. He was welcomed at the Lome Tokoin Airport by his brother and friend, General Gnassingbe Eyadema. The welcome ceremony consisted of the offering of a bouquet of flowers, the playing of the Guinean and Togolese national anthems, and the review of troops under the command of Major Lawan. President Eyadema and his guest, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, then shook hands with the numerous personalities who went to the airport to welcome him.

Apart from the members of the Central Committee and of the government, there were also members of the diplomatic corps, parliament, and constituent bodies. The two heads of state witnessed a performance of the Lome party activists before going to the VIP lounge where they had a short private talk. A few moments later, President Eyadema and Sekou Toure left the airport for the 2 February Hotel. From the airport to the hotel, the two statesmen were given a standing ovation by the crowd.

Perez de Cuellar Meets With Eyadema in Lome

AB281205 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, began the second day of his visit to the Republic of Togo today by a meeting in Lome this morning with the head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema. Present at the meeting was Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, and Atsu-Koffi Amegah, member of the Central Committee and Togo's representative at the United Nations.

The meeting this morning in Lome at the Presidential Palace between the UN secretary general and Gen Eyadema is the third of its kind between the two men within a period of 15 months. The two personages, Eyadema and Perez de Cuellar, met in Paris in September 1982 and in New York last October. That is why when he was interviewed this morning on the subject of his discussions with President Eyadema, Mr Perez de Cuellar said that since the world situation has not improved, the same issues discussed at previous meetings were at the center of their talks today. Apart from the problems of Chad, Namibia, and Western Sahara, economic problems in the west African subregion and in Togo were discussed.

UPPER VOLTA

Government, France Sign Financial Agreements

AB272154 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] This morning the minister of planning and cooperation, Comrade Eugen Talata Dondasse, and the head of the French cooperation mission, Jean (Monlahu), signed three financial agreements placing a total amount of 295 million CFA francs at the disposal of Upper Volta in the form of subsidies for financing three projects. The first agreement of 80 million CFA francs will be used for financing a research development and training program in Yatenga. The second agreement concerns Operation Precipitated Rainfall near Ouagadougou. The amount for the project is 90 million CFA francs. The third agreement of 125 million CFA francs will be used to finance the first phase of the workers' professional training program at the Poura mines.

Sankara Receives Libyan Envoy, Banking Official

AB281200 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Yesterday afternoon President Thomas Sankara received Comrade (Zayd as-Syana), President al-Qadhdhafi's special envoy, and Rajab Mesallati, the governor of the Libyan Central Bank. The talks centered on the proposed creation of an Upper Voltan-Libyan bank, and on agro-pastoral joint projects.

Guinea-Bissau Minister Delivers Message to Sankara

AB271710 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Thomas Sankara this morning received in audience the Guinea-Bissau minister of information and culture, Comrade Alexandre Correia. After his audience he answered questions from reporters:

[Begin recording][Correia] As you know, I came to Ouagadougou this morning with a personal message from Comrade Nino Vieira to his brother and friend, Comrade President Thomas Sankara. I will simply tell you that this message falls within the framework of the need to strengthen the bonds of friendship and brotherhood between Guinea-Bissau and Upper Volta in general, and between Comrade President Thomas Sankara and Comrade President Nino Vieira, in particular.

[Question from unidentified reporter] Comrade Minister, in which areas, for instance, can Guinea-Bissau and Upper Volta strengthen their bilateral relations?

[Correia] You know that Upper Volta and Guinea-Bissau are both underdeveloped countries and both are among the least developed countries of the world, and we believe that we can cooperate in a lot of fields, politically and economically. To attain these objectives, the two countries should have closer ties and contacts. What I can tell you now is that as soon as we return to Bissau, we are going to prepare for the establishment of cooperation — I cannot tell you what fields this cooperation will cover because I am only a bearer of a message — but I want to tell you that one of the major preoccupations of both Comrades Sankara and Nino is to see an exemplary cooperation established between the two sister countries. However, as soon as we return to Bissau and after reporting on my talks with President Sankara, undoubtedly, we will know in what fields we will cooperate with Upper Volta.

[Reporter] As the Guinea-Bissau minister of information, you were received in audience this morning by our minister of information, Comrade Adama Toure. Since revolutionary Upper Volta has always wanted to exchange and learn from the experiences of revolutionary countries, did you talk about this subject with Comrade Adama Toure so that you could establish cooperation in this field between the two countries?

[Correia] I will tell you that immediately after our brother, Minister Adama Toure, welcomed us at the airport, we began talking about this subject: the possibility of cooperating in the field of information and exchange of experiences. On our side, I can assure you that we are ready and determined at any time and any place, even right now, to have a working session with Comrade Adama Toure, minister of information, to see in what fields and how we can cooperate. I take this opportunity to tell you that we have received information about Upper Volta, but sometimes such information is not objective. And I will take advantage of my stay here to further discuss with my brother Minister Adama Toure the mode of cooperation and how we are going to go about it. As you know, information is a two-edged sword and you must know how to use it, especially when it concerns countries like ours — revolutionary countries. Although we are quite far from one another geographically, politically we are very close to Upper Volta. That is why we are going see, study, and together discuss how we are going to use our information in the interest of our peoples. It is not only a matter of informing them, we must use the information to educate and transform the mentality of our peoples. [end recording]

Diallo, Benin's Adjibade Address Cooperation Meeting

AB272110 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The Joint Cooperation Commission between Benin and Upper Volta held its first meeting this morning in Ouagadougou. The Upper Voltan delegation, including 11 ministers, is led by Comrade Arba Diallo, minister of foreign affairs. The 12-man Beninese delegation is led by Comrade Adjibade, Benin's minister of foreign affairs.

Outlining the significance of this morning's meeting, Comrade Arba Diallo said that the present session, as well assubsequent ones, stems from the indissoluble historical bonds of brotherhood and good neighborliness which link our two peoples. He said it is a meeting aimed at uniting the experiences of the two ongoing revolutions in Benin and Upper Volta. Minister Arba Diallo also recalled the two heads of state's views that the two revolutions have similar objectives. It is therefore necessary that everything should be done to strengthen the many forms of relations between our two countries. Let's listen to Comrad Arba Diallo himself:

[Begin Diallo recording]Our two governments are convinced that the self-centered and self-maintained development we are seeking to establish in our countries should first of all be the fruit of a national effort before eventually looking for an external supplement. This approach undeniably falls within the framework of South-South relations, and on the African level, conforms with the Lagos plan of action.

Comrades, in view of the above, I would like to invite you shortly to pass on to action. To do this, it behooves us to unite our efforts to find concrete solutions to the various problems of the Joint Commission. To this end, I would like to remind you that we will have to examine, among other things, the problem of transport and communication, the issue of trade, the demarcation of borders, and the problem of cooperation in the fields of agriculture, livestock, and fish breeding.

In conclusion, I remain confident that the exchange of views which will begin shortly will bear fruitful results. These results will, I am sure, contribute to bring about a rapid establishment of the new society of justice, well-being, and peace that Benin and Upper Volta have promised to bring to their popular masses. [end recording]

Comrade Adjibade, Benin's minister of foreign affairs, for his part said the present session marks a new step in the history of relations between Benin and Upper Volta — in short, between the two revolutionary peoples — a relation which is displayed in several fields.

[Begin Adjibade recording] During our previous meetings, frank and friendly discussions enabled us to note with satisfaction on each side a common will to fight for the establishment of a society free from all forms of inequality and social injustice, and an ardent common determination to work for peace in the world, in our continent, and in our subregion, as well as a similar preoccupation for the economic development of our two countries and the cultural emancipation of our two peoples. In any case, how can it be otherwise, when we know that the Beninese and Upper Voltan revolutions have a common history that was bequeathed to them by several years of colonial and neocolonial domination, essentially characterized by the exploitation of man by man?

Comrade ministers, since 26 October 1972, our country, the People's Republic of Benin, has been resolutely engaged in the building of a society pleasant to live in for each and every person — the socialist society. Although in this new option, we have adopted the basic principle of self-reliance, we shall not hesitate to emphasize that our country cannot live in isolation. That is why in the implementation of our foreign policy, we opted for friendly relations of solidarity and cooperation with all the countries of the world on the basis of the principle of nonalignment, equality, mutual respect of sovereignty, reciprocal benefit, and national dignity.

Comrade ministers, after the recent friendly and working visit by President Thomas Sankara, head of state of the Republic of Upper Volta and chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, to the People's Republic of Benin, this first session has come at the right time. It will enable us, by evaluating our relations of cooperation, to chart out new prospects and define ways and means of rendering it more dynamic and more fruitful. In this way, the working session held in Cotonou on 19 January 1984, during the visit of President Sankara to Benin, constitutes the first step of this useful consultation between the two revolutionary countries engaged in the same fight — that of liberating their people from foreign domination in order to make them masters of their own destiny. [end recording]

Danish Development Agency Funds Water Projects

AB281300 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Yesterday afternoon at the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation, the Upper Voltan Government, represented by Comrade Amadou Lougue, secretary general of the Department of Cooperation, and the Danish International Development Agency [Danida], represented by two advisers and three experts, signed a financial agreement.

Under the agreement, Danida will give Upper Volta a total of 110 million krone, that is, about 4.62 billion CFA. The money will be used to finance water supply projects in Banfora, Dori, and Ouagadougou, and for feasibility studies for the Ouagadougou water treatment station.

Part of the money will also be used for the construction of a diesel electric power station in Bobo Dioulasso; the extension of the network linking Ouagadougou, Bobo Dioulasso, Banfora, Koudougou, and Ouayigouya; for the supply of Reo from Koudougou and Tiena from Koutela, the installation of mini stations in Orodala, Yako, Koupela, and Po; and lastly for feasibility studies for the Ouagadougou III thermoelectric station.

After reviewing their highly fruitful cooperation, the two sides expressed satisfaction and decided to strengthen work toward strengthening it in the interest of the Danish and Upper Voltan peoples.

ANGOLA

UNITA Communiques on Military, Diplomatic Events

France Trip Never Discussed

MB271040 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Communique from UNITA Central Committee:

1. It was with great astonishment that the UNITA Central Committee heard from international broadcasting stations of a possible refusal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France to grant an entry visa into that country to the UNITA president.

2. As a matter of fact, the president of UNITA was invited to visit the European Parliament by a group of four deputies from France, the United Kingdom, Belgium and the FRG. The UNITA Central Committee has never spoken about the viability of a visit to France in view of the close relations which exist between Paris and Luanda, notably with regard to the recent sale of combat helicopters to the MPLA. The president of UNITA has never solicited any authorization for entry into France, either directly or by proxy. UNITA knows where the priorities of its fight lie. That is why whoever has waited for the request for authorization of entry into France has waited in vain, because UNITA never had the intention of doing so.

3. As clarified above, the UNITA Central Committee considers the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France as [passage indistinct].

5-16 Jan Operations

MB291105 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Communique issued by UNITA Chief of Staff Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila at UNITA central base on 17 January]

[Text] 1. The fantastic communiques issued by the MPLA and the commentaries by the Moscow warlords on a supposed reorganization of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and its successes are mere disinformation, propaganda, and falsehood, pure and simple. Any FAPLA unit which does not include Cuban commanders and forces flees when confronted by UNITA forces. The only force on the side of the MPLA that counts is the 45,000-man Cuban mercenary contingent. It is an illusion to think that Portuguese mercenaries of Rosa (Alva) Coutinho can win where Cubans, Russians, and East Germans have failed over 8 years. Time is confirming our correctnessand the facts do not change from day to day.

2. UNITA has proven its successes, which have been witnessed by foreign correspondents. Let the MPLA do the same with Western correspondents, who are connected to multinationals which have never kept secret their sympathy with the Russian-Cuban cause in Angola.

3. Continuing their offensive launched at the end of 1983, from 5 to 16 January 1984 UNITA forces carried out the following operations:

In Luanda Province, UNITA forces attacked and occupied the enemy position of (Zungoje) between Quixinge and Mumbondo on 7 January. In an attack on (Nguza) village on the banks of the Quixinge River on 12 January, our forces forced FAPLA soldiers to flee in disarray. On 14 January, UNITA forces attacked Candumbo, south of Mumbondo, and inflicted heavy losses on a FAPLA battalion. In Cuanza Norte Province, UNITA forces attacked and occupied Samba Caju on 10 January. On 14 January, UNITA forces attacked Camona, on the outskirts of Ndalatando, where a combined FAPLA and People's Defense Organization unit was forced to flee.

In Malanje Province, UNITA forces attacked and occupied Brito Godins on 15 January. On 11 January, UNITA forces attacked Muquixe, between Caculama and Malanje, forcing FAPLA units to flee to Malanje. On 7 January, our forces attacked Catala, between Malanje and Caculama, forcing the FAPLA 39th Brigade forces to retreat. Between Quizenga and Cacuso, our forces also attacked a train traveling from Luanda to Malanje, destroying the engine and 14 cars.

In Lunda Province, our forces on 15 January attacked Mona Quimbundo, on the outskirts of Saurimo, capital of Lunda Province. On 6 January, they attacked Caungula, located 45 km from the border with Zaire. In Xinge they ambushed a supply column traveling from Luanda to Saurimo on 14 January.

4. During this period the enemy suffered the following losses: A total of 269 FAPLA soldiers and 15 Cuban mercenaries were killed; 18 FAPLA soldiers were captured; and 124 FAPLA soldiers deserted to UNITA.

In the same period, our forces freed 16,000 citizens and destroyed 43 vehicles and 7 tanks. They shot down 5 helicopters, one a MI-24 helicopter gunship with registration M-3, number P7085; destroyed 1 Angolan train; and captured 584 weapons.

During the same period, UNITA suffered 21 killed, 85 wounded, and 12 missing.

The struggle will triumph. United we shall win.

Bie Province Success Claimed

MB291139 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Compatriots and comrades, the MPLA has once again been thrown into panic in Bie Province. The MPLA sellouts and the Cuban mercenaries have suffered a number of losses and have lost much war equipment during the UNITA strategic offensive, which has been ordered by General Savimbi, the comrade president and supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

Many positions of the Cubans and the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] running dogs have already been taken by UNITA forces in 14 out of the 16 provinces which officially compose our country, including Luanda Province. The MPLA, which every day issues fantastic communiques and commentaries on the sham FAPLA forces, was forced to admit what the people of Bie Province knew concerning the capture of Nharea on 4 January by UNITA forces, while Luanda Radio said the so-called glorious FAPLA and their Cuban cousins, as FAPLA calls them, had the situation under control.

UNITA is always referred to by the MPLA chieftains as a small group of bandits. How was it possible for UNITA to take Nharea in Bie Province on 4 January, as has been admitted by the MPLA, if it is just a small group of bandits?

Compatriots and Angolan people, always listen to the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in order to gain true information on the exact war situation prevailing in our country. The MPLA was forced to admit that UNITA forces took Nharea on 4 January. Besides Nharea, many other positions have been taken by UNITA. The MPLA is cynical; it does not release information. The MPLA is only able to carry out disinformation and propaganda.

MADAGASCAR

President Ratsiraka Receives Soviet Delegation Head

MB271424 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The president of Madagascar received this morning the Soviet delegation to the Joint Commission meeting led by Mr Petr Koshelev, the deputy chairman of the State Committee of Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR. President Ratsiraka received him in the following manner:

[Begin recording] "I am very happy to receive you here in Madagascar on the occasion of this fourth session of Soviet-Malagasy Joint Commission. I am very happy because Soviet-Malagasy cooperation continues to have a good basis. The mass media, particularly the imperialist mass media, has portrayed the USSR as a superpower which attempts to impose its views, but as far as Madagascar is concerned, we know that this is not true. You have never imposed anything upon us; you have offered economic aid to the Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar. You have never imposed your views on us. Something which people do not know, or pretend not to know, is that Soviet-Malagasy cooperation is not confined to the military aspect alone. Obviously, we have received military material from the USSR, like MIG-21's and tanks. However, we have also received civilian planes from the USSR.

Generally speaking, Soviet-Malagasy cooperation has borne fruit, and the amount of Soviet aid to the Republic of Madagascar is approximately $300 million. If one views things objectively, $300 million could not be all military aid; for a total of $300 million, there must be other forms of aid involved. I must tell you, in all sincerity, that we thank the USSR, its Supreme Soviet, its party and its government for aiding our balance of payments over the past 4 years, balance of payments assistance which amounts to $500 million.

To conclude, I would like to ask you to give my highest and most faithful regards to Comrade Yuriy Andropov. [end recording]

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Leader Nujoma Stipulates Cease-fire Condition

LD292127 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma said in a statement issued in the Zambian capital of Lusaka that he is prepared to agree to a cease-fire if South Africa is prepared to have talks with his organization on the United Nations' independence plan for South-West Africa/Namibia. The SWAPO statement came 24 hours after American Government representatives and the South African Government had concluded a round of talks in Cape Town on South-West Africa/Namibia and related matters. The leader of the United States delegation to the Cape Town talks, the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, arrived in Lusaka today for talks with President Kenneth Kaunda. It is not yet known if Dr Crocker will meet the SWAPO leader in Lusaka.

In its statement, SWAPO says it is prepared to accept the terms of the cease-fire if, during the period of disengagement, the South African Government is prepared to hold talks on the UN settlement plan for South-West Africa/Namibia. SWAPO adds that it is convinced that a temporary disengagement alone would not bring a lasting solution, unless this time it is used to achieve the kind of cease-fire envisaged in UN Security Council Resolution 435.

Earlier this month the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, indicated that South Africa would agree to direct talks between SWAPO and a delegation headed by the administrator general of South-West Africa/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

SWAPO's Manning Links Cease-fire, UN Resolution

MB271659 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1638 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] London, Jan 27, SAPA — SWAPO today maintained its position that any direct ceasefire talks with the South African Government would have to lead to implementation of the UN plan for SWA/Namibia's independence.

Last night the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, reiterated the offer of a disengagement, saying it could still be put into effect if SWAPO delivered positive indication that it was willing to start the process. But in London, SWAPO's West European information officer, Mr Peter Manning, said: "We remain prepared to meet with a South African delegation under the auspices of the United Nations to discuss with them a ceasefire as the first essential step in the implementation of UN Resolution 435."

It is this condition — amounting to South African agreement to implement the plan — which has made direct talks highly unlikely. The government's position is that it will not go ahead with the plan for internationally-supervised independence elections until Cuban forces leave Angola.

SWAPO considers that the South African offer is virtually [words indistinct].

The British Government has welcomed the South African disengagement offer.

In a written reply to a parliamentary question, Foreign Office under-secretary, Mr Malcolm Riekind, said last night: "We have long regarded the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola as necessary. We welcome the South African offer of disengagement and hope it can be implemented in a manner acceptable to all the interested parties."

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Force Announces SAM-9 System Captured

MB281220 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1212 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text]Cape Town, Jan 28, SAPA — The South African Defence Force had captured a complete Russian manufactured "SAM 9" mobile ground-to-air missile system during Operation Askari into Angola, the director intelligence of the South African Air Force, Colonel Julius Kriel announced today.

At a press conference at the Ysterplaat Air Force Base near Cape Town, which was also attended by the parliamentary study groups on defence, Colonel Kriel said that as far as he could ascertain it was "the first complete system to fall into the hands of the West." The system, loaded with four SAM 9 rockets and one spare — one rocket had been fired — was shown to the press. A captured Soviet automatic grenade launcher employed against infantry and soft skinned vehicles was also on shown as well as a video on the weapons used in Operation Askari, which came to a climax on January 2, 1984 when the South African forces attacked the SWAPO base at Cuvelai and eventually ended up by defeating the Angolan 11th Brigade — comprising 2,600 men.

Colonel Kriel said it was estimated that each SAM 9 missile would cost in the region of R200,000 and the complete missile system, which comprises a standard Russian-made armoured amphibious V8 petrol-driven vehicle with four SAM 9 launchers and two spares — which can be loaded within 30 seconds — would cost more than R1-million. Colonel Kriel said the vehicle was captured, with the ignition switched on, just south of Cuvelai, which was the target of the South African security forces.

He said it was originally thought that the SAM 9 missile was a modified SAM 7 missile, but this was definitely not the case. The SAM 9 is a low medium range missile and it is "bigger, better and much more effective than the SAM 7," Colonel Kriel said. The SAM 9 is 12cm in diameter compared to the 6cm of the SAM 7. The SAM 9 is mounted on a vehicle while the SAM 7 is a shoulder-launched missile. The SAM 9 had a range of eight kilometres to the SAM 7's range of six km. The SAM 9 is an infra-red heat-seeking missile and even if it misses its target it would explode while the SAM 7 only explodes on contact.

Colonel Kriel said it could not be established whether SWAPO, the Cubans or the Angolan FAPLA forces had used the missile system. "We suspect there were more than this one missile system but the others got away. This one was well hidden and camouflaged and we found it with the ignition switched on. The crew of three were obviously in a big hurry to get away. They had been staying in the vehicle and we found a mixture of military clothing, civilian clothing and even women's clothing," he said.

One of the six SAM 9 missiles had been fired and Colonel Kriel said it was possible that the captured vehicle had fired the missile that became embedded in the tail of an Impala during Operation Askari. The Impala managed to land safely.

Commandant Johan Weyers of army intelligence said Cuvelai was well, and very strictly, run by the Russians. He found the "political commissars" map of the town as well as maps and charts of a high-ranking Russian officer. The literature, correspondence and empty Russian vodka bottles were also shown to the media.

The chief air staff operations of the South African Air Force, Major General Jan van Loggenberg, said SWAPO had moved in under the radar umbrella of the Angolan forces. Aerial reconnaissance had shown that SWAPO, under Russian leadership, had made their headquarters close to the FAPLA forces to benefit from their radar blanket and defensive systems. He emphasised that SWAPO was protected by a complete integrated air defence system. "This complete, integrated system is definitely more than Angola needs for defensive purposes," he said.

Commandant Weyers said that the South African forces had avoided the FAPLA forces and had moved past them on the east and then attacked Cuvelai from the rear.

Days before the battle the South African Air Force had jettisoned thousands of pamphlets warning the local population and FAPLA forces that they were going to take action against SWAPO and they should not interfere. The FAPLA forces however put the South African troops under heavy fire while they were taking action against SWAPO. South African troops won the battle of Cuvelai and then defended themselves against FAPLA forces and scored a big victory against the Angolan 11th Brigade. Cuban re-inforcements also opted to retreat after making contact with the South African forces, Major General van Loggenberg said.

Party Spokesmen Comment

MB290617 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The South African Defense Force has unveiled a new Soviet missile system captured during the recent military operation in southern Angola. The weapon, the SAM-9, was shown in its entirety to Western newsmen for the first time at a recent news conference in Cape Town. The SAM-9 is a surface-to-air, short-to-medium-range, vehicle-mounted missile that is controlled by an infra-red device at its point of launch. Its range is about 30 km, operational to a height of 18,000 meters.

The director of intelligence of the Air Force, Colonel Julius Kriel, told newsmen that the SAM-9 was part of an integrated air defense system that had been set up in southern Angola. The chief of staff, operations, of the South African Air Force, Major General Jan van Loggerenberg, said at the news conference that it was clear that SWAPO was using this air defense system as an umbrella under which to protect itself from South African air strikes.

Hendrik Verwoerd, of the South African Broadcasting Corporation's Cape Town news desk, was at the news conference, and he asked the chief of the National Party's study group on defense, Mr (Willa Heckar), and the official opposition's spokesman on defense, Mr Philip Myburgh, just what the SAM-9 meant in strategic terms.

[Begin recording] [(Heckar)] I do think it means a lot for us. It makes it possible to do an investigation on this weaponry and to get us ahead of our enemy by way of getting our own weapons.

[Verwoerd] Does South Africa have the ability to counter this kind of weaponry?

[(Heckar)] Not at the moment, but we have got the engineers at ARMSCOR [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] to do the job for us. But then we need some funds. This is sophisticated weaponry of high technology, and we need money to do the (?investigation) for us.

[Verwoerd] Do you believe that SWAPO is using the umbrella of the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] and Cuban forces in Angola to protect themselves against attacks from South Africa?

[(Heckar)] We are quite sure that SWAPO is hiding behind the FAPLA forces. They are getting under the umbrella of the radar systems, and from there they operate against us.

[Myburgh] Yes, I think it is important. One does not know, of course, to what extent equally sophisticated equipment has been found or captured in the Middle East or in Afghanistan. If that is the case — in other words, if more sophisticated equipment has been found — then this could pale somewhat into insignificance. On the other hand, if it is true — and I have no reason to believe that it is not true — that this is a unique situation in which we can supply something to the West which they would be able to analyze and to find counter measures for — I believe it is an important find, certainly. [end recording]

That was the chief of the National Party's study group on defense, Mr (Willa Heckar), and the opposition spokesman on defense, Mr Philip Myburgh. The SAM-9 missile system was captured during the South African military operation in the vicinity of the southern Angolan town of Cuvelai.

Reportage on U.S. Envoy Crocker's Visit to RSA

Meeting With Pik Botha

MB280606 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Discussions between South Africa and the United States over the future of South-West Africa continue today. The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, will attend a working lunch with the South African prime minister, Mr P. Botha, at Mr Botha's official residence in Cape Town, Westbrook, this afternoon. Dr Crocker, who arrived in South Africa on Thursday, began talks on a wine estate near Somerset West with the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, yesterday afternoon. No statement was issued last night, and it is also not known if a statement will be issued today.

Our political correspondent reports that the length of yesterday's talks indicate the urgency of various matters discussed. The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, was one of the members of yesterday's delegation. Among the issues discussed was probably Angola's and SWAPO's reaction to South Africa's proposal of a cease-fire, as well as other matters concerning southern Africa.

Dr Crocker leaves later this weekend for some of the so-called Frontline States, and then travels to Europe.

Meeting With Prime Minister

LD282158 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] The latest talks between Dr Chester Crocker of the United States and South African leaders on, among other things, the future of South-West Africa/Namibia ended in Cape Town this afternoon with a working lunch at which the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, was present. The luncheon was held at the Prime Minister's official residence (Westbrook) in Cape Town.

After the talks the South African Department of Foreign affairs issued a statement saying detailed talks had taken place yesterday and today. During the talks there had been negotiations and opinions had been exchanged on important questions in southern Africa and the conflict situation in the operational areas of South-West Africa/Namibia.

The statement added that the prime minister would give more details during the course of next week. Our political correspondent reports that while nothing else was said, it was clear that both sides were happy with the talks.

This afternoon's working lunch was preceded by more talks between a South African team and the South-West African/Namibian multiparty conference.

Dr Crocker leaves later this weekend for the so-called Frontline States and Europe. It has since been reported that Dr Crocker also met the South-West Africa/Namibian multiparty conference at the residence of the American ambassador to South

Africa in Cape Town. The multiparty conference consists of leaders of various political parties in South-West Africa/Namibia. Dr Crocker and his party are reported to have informed the South-West Africans about the recent talks in the Cape Verde Islands and in Lisbon. The South-Westers are said to have informed the Americans about the conference's aims and the progress made so far with achieving those aims.

Multiparty Delegation Returns to Windhoek

MB271452 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Four members of the delegation of the South-West African multiparty conference that has been holding talks with senior South African Government officials in Cape Town have returned to Windhoek to consult with the executives of their respective parties. The four are to return to Cape Town tomorrow for further discussions in connection with the talks between the American assistant secretary of state, Dr Crocker, and South African Government leaders. The four are Mr Riruako, Democratic Turnhalle Alliance president; Mr Diergaardt, the leader of the Rehoboth Liberation Front; Mr Eben van Zijl of the National Party; and Mr Garoeb, The Damara Council leader.

Cause of Death of Venda Detainee Challenged in Court

MB271147 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The Venda Government claim that detainee Samuel Tshikudo died after a long illness is being disputed. The two doctors who attended the autopsy of Tshikūdo say he had been ill for some days and was very dehydrated. Tshikudo died last week after being in detention for 3 months. He was being held under the Venda terrorism act.

The Tshikudo family's attorney Ismail Ayob says he applied to the Supreme Court for relief if Venda authorities turn down his request to allow a doctor to visit six other detainees in Venda.

Violent Clashes Reportedly Disrupt KaNgwane Meeting

MB270824 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 27 Jan 84 pp 1,24

[By *TIMES* Reporter]

[Text] The border adjustment row in Kangwane has taken a dramatic new twist — with violent clashes between pro-Swaziland groups and Enos Mabuza's supporters. In the latest development pro-Swaziland demonstrators attacked and disrupted ,a meeting in which Mabuza's Inyandza officials attempted to install a new acting chief in the Ka-Shongwe area.

The district magistrate, Mr W. Mlambo, was badly injured and is in a serious condition in the Magolide hospital. He was apparently stoned by demonstrators when he attempted to hold a meeting to announce the appointment of the new chief.

Eight people were rounded up by South African police. Several others are on the wanted list and are expected to be picked up any day, our source in the troubled homeland said yesterday. "I know I am on the wanted list. They'll come for me soon, but I'm not scared," one Kangwane man said.

Apparently prior to the meeting, there was a radio announcement that that a meeting would be held at Jeppes Reef to announce the installation of Mr Mashusha Shongwe to replace his half brother Sdumo Shongwe.

"It is fashionable in the homelands to replace chiefs if they disagree with the homeland regime, whichever it may be," our Kangwane source said.

The chairman of the Mastsamo Tribal Authority, who is responsible for the chiefdom and is elected by the chiefs of the area, refused to authorise the meeting. Mr Joseph Shongwe, the chairman of the area, sent tribal police to stop a group of Inyandza officials — including Mabuza's Justice Minister Caiphus Zitha and community affairs minister, Mr P.I. Masilela, from entering his region to hold the meeting.

But there were only eight tribal policemen and a large number of Inyandza supporters in a busload with the officials while the ministers drove in cars. They were boisterous and rowdy. They chased the policemen away and stormed into the area by force.

When they arrived at Jeppes Reef, a large number of angry demonstrators converged on them. When the magistrate was making his opening remarks the demonstrators, who were armed with sticks and stones, pelted the Inyandza people, including the ministers, and they ran away.

The bus and cars were also stoned but they managed to drive off with minor injuries. The demonstrators appeared particularly angry with the resident magistrate and he was seriously beaten up and stoned. The mobs were apparently stopped by the chairman of the tribal authority. The man who was to be installed as acting chief also ran away.

The Kangwane people say Inyandza want to make Mahusha acting chief to prepare for an illegitimate son of the late chief to take over as the new chief. "We don't even know this boy. We have learned however, that the late chief got the boy with a woman he never married. Now I have also learned that plans are being made to pay lobola for her and bring her into the chief's kraal to legitimise the boy. I never heard of a thing like that in Swazi history," a member of the council which votes for the chief said.

Today, Inyandza plans to open an office for their acting chief. Another official office had been burned down and South African Government furniture was smashed by angry mobs who support the pro-Swaziland council chiefs.

SWAZILAND

ANC Refugees Leave Prison for Mozambique

MB270850 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 27 Jan 84

[Text] Fifteen self-proclaimed refugee members of the African National Congress have been taken out of "protective custody" at Mawelawela Prison and taken to Mozambique.

They were rounded up during the Peter Tosh concert in December and questioned before being sent to Mawelawela while police investigated their legality of staying in Swaziland.

A spokesman for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees told *THE OBSERVER* yesterday that the refugees had asked to be taken to Mozambique on their own choice.

"They were not genuine refugees because they did not have the necessary papers to be around Swaziland," the spokesman said.

"They had three choices, either to stay at Mawelawela Prison as detainees, or be sent back to their country of origin — South Africa — or choose a country of their choice where to settle.

"These people chose to go to Mozambique," he said.

It was also reliably learnt yesterday that another man who was arrested with the 15 claimed he was a Swazi national. Police have placed him under the microscope while he is still being held at Mawelawela.

The spokesman also disclosed that another group of 18 refugees were being held at Mawelawela and said he was still going to enquire about their future.

"This group was the first to be rounded up but so far, we have heard nothing about their future. However, we are still going to make further investigations," he added.

Efforts to get comment on the future of the remaining 18 refugees drew a blank from the Ministry of Interior and Immigration.

An *OBSERVER* reporter was told the matter was handled by Principal Secretary, Mr Peter Bhengu, and the minister, Mr King Mtsetfwa.

Mr Bhengu was not in his office when *THE OBSERVER* called and the minister was reported to be attending a seminar for the new members of Parliament.

Court Finds Woman Innocent of Sedition Charge

MB280740 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English 28 Jan 84 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] Dudu Dlamini, who was facing sedition and obscene publications charges has been acquitted and freed in the High Court.

Mr Justice Benn Dunn ruled that the Crown had failed to produce evidence that would establish a *prima-facie* case.

The state had alleged that Miss Dlamini had reproduced and distributed pamphlets calling for a national uprising against the Liqoqo and Prince Sozisa.

It was further alleged that some of the pamphlets were obscene.

It was claimed that in one of the pamphlets a distorted portrait of the Authorised Person, Prince Sozisa, appeared and that in another a portrait of the former Prime Minister, Prince Mabandla.

The prosecutor alleged that in one of the pamphlets insulting insinuations were made about the installation of the reigning Queen Regent Ntombi and the removal of the former Queen Regent, Inkosikati Dzeliwe.

The pamphlet was said to have insinuated that Prince Sozisa had been responsible for the installation of the new Queen.

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Meets With Botswana's Masire

MB291220 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The Kazangula border linking Zambia and Botswana is to be officially opened on 10 February following the completion of the Zambia-Botswana highway. A communique released after last night's talks between his excellency President Kaunda and his Botswana counterpart, Dr Quett Masire, at State House, has said that the two leaders were pleased at the successful completion of the bilateral project despite the adverse economic climate in both countries. An official opening ceremony is to be held at Kazungula on 10 February. Presidents Kaunda and Masire were also pleased to note good progress in the implementation of other bilateral and multilateral projects.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction at the remarkable progress that the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, to which both Zambia and Botswana belong, has made. They appealed to donor countries to participate in more SADCC projects to help improve the economic situation in the region. A SADCC donors' conference opens in Lusaka tomorrow.

Meanwhile, President Masire, who arrived in the country at the head of a six-man delegation which included Botswana's minister of information, Mr D.K. Kwelagobe, left for home today. The Zambian delegation included the party secretary general, Mr Humphrey Mulemba; the prime minister, Mr Nalumino Mundia; the secretary of state for defense and security, Mr Grey Zulu; some members of the Central Committee; and ministers.

President Kaunda held a State House dinner for President Masire and his delegation last night.

Party Head Calls for Modification of Legal System

MB291257 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The party secretary general, Mr Humphrey Mulemba, has called for the modification of the country's laws, most of which were tailored to suit the needs of the colonial society. He was speaking at the Law Association of Zambia dinner at a Lusaka hotel last night. Mr Mulemba said that the nation had since independence become a new society, striving to create a community based on the principals of social justice, echoed in the philosophy of humanism.

He said that the party was anxious to see that there is not only a speedy and just end to legal proceedings but that the jurisdiction of the courts is expanded to ensure the full protection of the society through strict and fair punishment. However, Mr Mulemba emphasized that he was not calling for kangaroo courts, but an approach which does not allow the criminal to get around punishment on technicalities.

The party chief pointed out that the need to change some of the country's laws is manufactured [as heard] in the impunity with which foreign elements and illegal immigrants, particularly on the Copperbelt, have taken advantage of the country's laws. Mr Mulemba said the party was determined not to let the present crime rate continue unabated.

The chairman of the Law Association of Zambia, Mr Roger Chungwe, said there is an urgent need for an improvement in the provision of legal services to the disadvantaged. He took a swipe at the provision of free legal services by the state to state companies, saying such tendencies sapped the energies of lawyers [words indistinct] apart from breeding incompetence and inefficiency in the profession.

Meanwhile, the Law Association of Zambia donated 2,000 kwacha toward the new party headquarters fund. The 2,000-kwacha check was presented to Mr Mulemba at the dinner by Mr Chungwe. The dinner was also attended by the chief justice, Mr Annel Silungwe, and other senior state officials.

ZIMBABWE

President Banana Assigns, Shuffles Cabinet Portfolios

MB271947 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, has appointed five more permanent secretaries and reshuffled others. The president has appointed Mr (Donald Saunders) the new secretary for the new Ministry of Energy and Water Resources Development; Comrade (Justin Nyoko), secretary for the Ministry of Information, Post and Telecommunications; Dr (Elijah Kenakira), secretary for the Ministry of Education; and Dr (William Nibekunye), secretary for the Ministry of Trade and Commerce.

Comrade Banana has also appointed Comrade (David Zamuchiya) as secretary to the new Ministry of Justice, Legal, and Parliamentary Affairs. Comrade (Muswane Muntole), former secretary in the Ministry of Transport, now moves to the Ministry of Labor, Manpower Planning, and Social Welfare, and Comrade (Musindo Changa), formerly with Housing, remains in the new Ministry of Construction and National Housing. Dr (Mufaro Hove) is now the new permanent secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Technology. Comrade (Maurice Tavini), who was permanent secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Town Planning, now moves to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Minister Says RSA Behind Attacks on White Farmers

MB290627 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The government is doing its best to protect white farmers, who are the major targets of this phase of terrorism with the overwhelming evidence of South African influence in the training, planning, and distribution of the destabilization strategy. The statement was made the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, when he addressed a joint meeting of the Britain-Zimbabwe Society and the Royal Commonwealth Society. Comrade Shamuyarira pointed out that ZIPRA dissidents are being recruited by the Pretoria regime to destabilize Zimbabwe by promoting unrest through sabotage and murder. The minister also revealed that apartheid-ruled South Africa has launched an intensive propaganda war against Zimbabwe through the so-called Radio Truth, a clandestine station broadcasting from South Africa.

ZANU-PF Official on New Party Constitution

MB290725 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The new ZANU-PF constitution is likely to be more responsive to the challenges of an independent Zimbabwe than that of 1964, which emphasized the liberation struggle. The statement was made by the ZANU-PF national organizing secretary, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, when he addressed provincial executives of the party in Harare yesterday.

Comrade Nyagumbo said the second congress is crucial for both the party and the nation as a whole. He said although no agenda has been worked out, it is anticipated that delegates will discuss the election of a democratic and popular new Central Committee to run the party until the third congress. Comrade Nyagumbo added that the report of the existing Central Committee covering the 20 years it has been running the party would also be discussed.

He said immediate plans for commissars in preparing for the second national congress would be to mobilize and educate the masses on the party's ideology and policy of socialism. Comrade Nyagumbo pointed out that political commissars should visit all cells, branches, districts, and provinces to ensure that party machinery is working efficiently and that all the members are registered.